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By NEVILLE WYNDHAM, Esq. of Ash-Hall.

V O L. III.

L O N D O N :

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Travels through Europe

CONTAINING

A General History, and Description of the
Principal Cities, Towns, and Villages
and the most remarkable Objects of Nature
and Art in each of the Kingdoms

FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS
OF THE AUTHOR

AND

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CELEBRATED MODERN TRAVELLERS



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WILLIAM WINDHAM, Esq.

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P O L A N D.

NAME, EXTENT, BOUNDARIES.

AUTHORS assign no probable derivation for the name of this country. Poland is a large kingdom extending eight hundred miles from east to west, and five hundred and sixty, from north to south. It was anciently a part of Sarmatia Europea, and is bounded to the north by Prussia, Livonia, and Russia; to the east by Russia, and Little Tartary; to the west by Silesia, Brandenburg, and Pomerania; and to the south by Moldavia, Transylvania, and Hungary.

AIR, SOIL, PRODUCE, RIVERS, LAKES.

In the north of Poland the air is cold, but salubrious; in the other parts of the kingdom it is temperate both in summer and winter, and the weather in both is more settled than in many other countries. The face of the country is, in general, level, and the hills but few. The Crapack, or Carpathian mountains separate it from Hungary on the south; and the Beskiation mountains are a continuation of the Carpathian chain. The soil is exceedingly fertile, producing

cing corn, pasturage, hemp, and flax in abundance. Such is the luxuriance of the pastures in Podolia, that it is said the cattle can hardly be seen which are grazing in the meadows. Vast quantities of corn are sent down the Vistula to Dantzic, from all parts of Poland, which is bought up chiefly by the Dutch.

Vast numbers of horned cattle are bred in this country : eighty or ninety thousand are supposed to be driven every year out of Poland. The Polish horses, are strong, swift, and beautiful. Of these there are abundance in this country ; as well as of elks, bisons, buffaloes, wild asses, wild sheep with one horn, and lynxes. The Polish manna is produced by an herb growing in the meadows and fenny grounds ; and the kermes-berries, produced in this country, are used both in dying and medicine. The metals found here are iron and lead, with some tin, gold, and silver. The other products of Poland are various kinds of precious stones, alum, talc, salt-petre, amber, fine rock-chrystal, lapis calaminaris, vitriol, quicksilver, and pit-coal. Little Poland contains salt-mines, which are the principal riches of the country. The eastern part of the country is full of woods, forests, rivers, lakes, and marshes. The most considerable rivers are the Vistula, the Niester, or Dniester, the Nieper or Dnieper, the Warthe, the Duna, the Bog, and the Memel. The Vistula has its source in Hungary, among the Carpathian mountains, runs through Poland into Prussia, and with its accumulated streams, falls into the Baltic, near Dantzic. The Dniester has its origin in a lake among the Carpathian mountains, and dividing Poland from Moldavia, passes into the Black Sea. The Dnieper flows from the mountains of Budin, in Russia, and after a course of eight hundred miles, discharges itself
into

into the Black Sea. The Warte rises in the palatinate of Cracow, and runs into the Oder a little above Custrin.

The most remarkable lake in Great Poland, is the Goplar-lake, in the palatinate of Brezese, in Bujavia, which is twenty miles in length, and two in breadth. The other provinces contain several large fish ponds.

HISTORY, CONSTITUTION.

POLAND, like many other countries, was originally divided into many small states or principalities; but since the year 1309, it has been governed by one sovereign. Miecislaus I. who ascended the throne in 964, and was the most considerable of the Polish princes, at that time, became a convert to Christianity, and induced many of his subjects and vassals to follow his example. In 1386, Jagello, great duke of Lithuania, embraced Christianity, and afterwards married Hedwig, queen of Poland, in consequence of which the great duchy was added to the Polish dominions.

Poland was formerly an hereditary kingdom, but afterwards the accession of a new king to the government was always preceded by a declaration of the nobility; but the kings not only stiled themselves sovereigns of Poland by the consent of the people, but also heirs to the kingdom and its dependencies, by right of succession. Sigismund Augustus was the last who assumed this title. After his decease it was enacted by law, "That no king should, in his life-time, appoint or choose a successor; nor convoke a diet for the election; nor in any manner intermeddle with the succession to the crown; but that, on the

decease of a king, the choice should perpetually remain free and open to all the nobles of the kingdom."

This law has been observed till the revolution on the 3d. of May, 1791. In the new constitution, established on that day, the most important feature consists in the throne being declared hereditary.

The evils of elective monarchy were indeed the principal cause that Poland had almost ceased to be considered as a nation; and the firmness of an hereditary sovereignty must restore her to her just weight and importance, which are doubtless great. The dynasty of future kings of Poland is to commence in Frederic Augustus elector of Saxony, with the right of inheritance to his male descendants. If the present elector shall have no male issue, a husband chosen by him for his daughter, with the consent of the Polish representatives, shall begin the dynasty: hence the princess Maria Augusta Nepomucena, only daughter of the elector, is declared Infanta of Poland. Russia, and her party, have been overawed by the spirit of Prussia and England, the allies of the elector; and if the exertions of England really tended only to secure this grand measure, so important to the balance of power, applause is due to the design and execution.

So far we have only considered Poland externally, as an European nation; but when we peruse the new constitution, with a view to the internal advantages, we perceive with regret, that, after this boasted change, Poland has just advanced to that degree of freedom and civilization, which other European countries enjoyed in the thirteenth century. Her hundreds of citizens are free: her millions of peasants are slaves. The grand empiric secret of government
has

has ever been to stud the chains of slavery with a few glittering ornaments; to delude the people with a few forms of freedom, while the grizly idol of tyranny lurks behind the silken veil. Who could help smiling, when he reads the following sentence in the English edition of the New Constitution, page 9, thus distinguished by Italian letters: "*We publish and proclaim a perfect and entire liberty to all people, either who may be newly coming to settle, or those who, having emigrated, would return to their native country.*"—Excellent Polish liberty, and worthy the applause of slaves? Will not Poland be filled with new settlers, after this solemn assurance that they shall not be put in chains? The whole privileges of the equestrian order, allowed by the barbarous laws of the middle ages, when just laws, reason, and humanity were unknown, are perpetually confirmed. Fifteen millions of men are the slaves of 60,000 nobles; who may even overturn this boasted constitution, and its mighty concessions, whenever they may choose to draw their swords.

The elector of Saxony, however, still hesitates to accept the reversion of the crown of this country, though rendered hereditary; because it proved a wreath of thorns to his predecessors. He desires some additional prerogatives, which may well be granted, for the constitution still preponderates too much to an aristocracy; and it is often the interest of the community, in that case, to increase the royal power.

The equestrian order is the only nobility allowed by the Polish laws, which neglect titles as vain additions: and though they regard those who hold the *offices* of palatines and castellans, as the *second* order of the state, and the nobility as the *third*, still all the senators and the clergy must be
chosen

chosen from the nobles; so that in fact this class forms all the three distinctions of peers, clergy, and commons; for almost every free yeoman is a noble. Hence it might appear that the nobles must be so numerous, that the distinction would be little regarded; but the vast number of peasants or slaves serves as a foil even to this large body. The inhabitants of the cities and towns are mostly of German extraction, and can hardly be regarded as Poles. The mass of the people are slaves; at the utmost not above five hundred thousand (including citizens) out of fifteen millions, are free. These slaves, by the New Constitution, are received under the protection of the national law and government: that is, they are not, as before, to be tried and adjudged, even in capital cases, by their masters: and they are enabled to form agreements with their *proprietors*, who are not to be permitted at pleasure to allow such contracts with *their villagers*. Such are the terms used in the New Constitution, so that the Polish peasants have, at the most, only acquired the privileges of servitude held by the *villains* of the middle ages. On the contrary, the old privileges of the nobles are confirmed, by the second articles of the constitution; it therefore remains with them whether they may not try their peasants, for life and death, and exert every other prerogative as before. When the constitution betrays such discordance in itself, it is no wonder that the elector of Saxony is little eager to accept a crown, still too much exposed to the contempt of an uncurbed aristocracy.

CLER-

CLERGY, RELIGION.

THERE are two archbishoprics in Poland: these are Gnesna and Lemberg. The archbishop of Gnesna is next in rank to the king, and sits on his right hand in the senate. He is also perpetual legate of the see of Rome, primate of the church, and the first prince and senator of the kingdom. He gives audience to foreign ambassadors, crowns the king and queen, and has his marshal, cross-bearer, and chancellor. He is always a cardinal, and, during an interregnum, prince-regent of the kingdom. The archbishop of Lemberg seats himself on the king's left hand in the senate. The other prelates enjoy great privileges and immunities, particularly the bishop of Cracow.

Popery is looked upon as the established and orthodox religion in this country. It is certain, however, that the number of protestants in Poland is very considerable; and, when these are joined to the Greek church, the whole are called Dissidents: But the Polish nobility, and the bulk of the nation, are tenacious of the Roman catholic religion, even to enthusiasm. The treaty of Oliva, concluded in 1660, which tolerated the dissidents, was guarantied by the principal powers in Europe; but it has since been so far disregarded by the Poles that, about the year 1724, they made a public massacre, under the sanction of law, of the protestants at Thorn. The same may be said of the other numerous provisions made for the protection of the protestants, who have been frequently persecuted. The Jews are indulged with great privileges, and are very numerous in Poland. Hence it is stiled the Paradise

dise of the Jews. Great numbers of Mahometan Tartars are also found in this country, and more particularly in Lithuania. The annual poll-tax of the Jews in Poland amounts to about fifty-seven thousand rix-dollars. The monasteries in Poland are said to amount to five hundred and seventy-six, and the nunneries to one hundred and seventeen; besides two hundred and forty-six seminaries or colleges, and thirty-one abbies. The clergy are possessed of a very large portion of the land and revenues of the kingdom. The Polish clergy are, in general, illiterate bigots, and the monks are some of the most profligate of mankind. They are often seen intoxicated, and led staggering from taverns, without apprehending any disgrace to their order, or dreading the censure of their superiors, who require equal indulgence.

It must be acknowledged that the protestants in Poland have not been persecuted of late years, and a fresh resolution has been formed, that all dissidents shall henceforth enjoy the free exercise of their religion, though they are still to be excluded from the diet, the senate, and the permanent council. They are to have churches, but without bells; and they are also permitted to have schools and seminaries of their own: they are indeed rendered capable of sitting in the inferior courts of justice.

LANGUAGE, LEARNING.

THE Polish language is a dialect of the Slavonic: It is neither copious nor harmonious, consisting principally of consonants; many of the words being destitute of a single vowel. The High Dutch and Latin are pretty generally spoken, though

though incorrectly. The language in Lithuania differs much from that of the other provinces.

Though Copernicus, the great restorer of the astronomical system; Vorstius, and some other learned men, were natives of Poland, yet its soil is far from being favourable to learning. The contempt which the nobility have ever shown for the sciences, the servitude of the lower people, and the universal superstition among all ranks of men, have wonderfully retarded the progress of letters in this kingdom. But a taste for learning has of late spread itself among the nobles, and begins to be regarded as an accomplishment.

TRADE, MANUFACTURES, COINS.

THERE are not many manufactures in this kingdom, if we accept some linen and woollen cloths, and hard wares, which are fabricated in the interior parts of Poland. The commerce is entirely confined to the city of Dantzic, and the other towns on the Vistula and the Baltic. The Poles export grain of all kinds, hemp, flax, hops, linseed, honey, wax, tallow, hides, masts, pitch, pot-ash, deal boards, ship and house timber, leather dressed in the Russian manner, horned cattle, horses, and other commodities; but these are greatly over-balanced by the imports, which consist of wine, spices, rich silk stuffs, cloths, fine linen, plate, precious stones, pearls, steel, copper, brass, furs, &c. The value of a gold ducat of Poland is about four shillings and three-pence; the old silver dollar of Dantzic is worth four shillings and six-pence; the rix-dollars of Thorn four shillings and five-pence, and the rix dollar of Sigismund III. and Uladislaus IV. kings of Poland, four shillings and six-pence.

REVENUES, MILITARY STRENGTH, ORDERS OF
KNIGHTHOOD.

THE revenue of the king of Poland is sufficient to maintain him and his household with great splendor, as he pays no troops, or officers of state, nor even his body-guards. The present king had one million and a half of florins settled on him by the commission of state; and the annual income of his predecessors generally amounted to about one hundred and forty thousand pounds sterling. The public revenues arise chiefly from the crown-lands, the salt-mines in the Palatinate of Cracow, now in Austrian Poland, ancient tolls and customs, particularly those of Elbing and Dantzic; the rents of Marienburg, Dirshau, and Rogenhus; and of the government of Cracow, and district of Niepoliomicz.

The ordinary army of the Poles, in 1778, consisted of twelve thousand and three hundred men in Poland, and seven thousand four hundred and sixty-five in Lithuania, cantoned into crown lands. The Polish hussars are the finest and most shewy body of cavalry in Europe; next to them are the pancerns; and both these bodies wear defensive armour of coats of mail, and iron caps. The rest of their cavalry are armed with musquets, and heavy scymeters. The Polish cavalry are, however, very inefficient in the field; for, though the men are brave, and their horses excellent, they are strangers to discipline. Under proper management, the Poles may be made excellent troops. Of this we are convinced by those who were under John Sobieski: they made as great a figure in arms as any people in Europe. It did not suit the Saxon princes, who succeeded that

that hero, to encourage a martial spirit in the Poles, whom they perpetually over-awed with their electoral troops; nor indeed to introduce any reformation among them, either civil or military; the effects of which conduct have been since severely felt in that country. Dantzic is the only place, in the Polish dominions, that deserves the name of a fortress.

The order of the White Eagle was instituted by Uladislaus, in 1325, and revived by Augustus II. in 1705. The present king instituted the order of Stanislaus, soon after his election to the crown. The badge is a gold cross, enamelled red, and on the centre of it is a medallion, with the image of St. Stanislaus, enamelled in proper colours. It is worn pendant to a red ribbon, edged with white. The star of the order is silver, and in the centre, a cypher of S. A. R. (*Stanislaus Augustus Rex*) encircled with the motto *Premiando incitat.*

POPULATION, INHABITANTS, MANNERS, CUSTOMS,
DRESS.

IT would be found a very difficult task to estimate the number of the people of this country. Some have conjectured that Poland and Lithuania contain fifteen millions of inhabitants; even since the partition and dismemberment of the kingdom. The provinces taken by Russia are the largest, those taken by Austria the most populous, and those acquired by Prussia the most commercial.

The Poles are well proportioned, and have fair complexions. They are brave, honest, ingenuous, and hospitable. The women are sprightly, but modest; and remarkable for their submissive obedience to their husbands. The dress of the Poles is singular. The men cut the hair

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of their heads short, and shave their beards, having only large whiskers. They wear a vest, which reaches to the middle of the leg, and a kind of gown over it, lined with fur, and girded with a sash; but their sleeves fit as close to their arms as a waistcoat. Their breeches are wide, and make but one piece with their stockings. They wear a fur cap, or bonnet; their shirts have neither collars nor wristbands, nor do they use either stocks or neck-cloths. Instead of shoes, they wear Turkey leather boots, with thin soles, and deep iron heels, bent like a half moon. They carry a pole-axe, and wear a sabre or cutlass by their sides. When they appear on horseback, they wear a short upper cloak, which is usually lined with furs both within and without. The people of the best quality wear fables; and others the skins of leopards, tygers, &c. Some of them have not less than fifty suits of cloaths, all remarkably rich, which descend from generation to generation. The habit of the women is not very different from that of the men: It is a simple Polonaise, or long robe, edged with fur; but some people of fashion, of both sexes, affect the French or English modes. The peasants, in winter, wear a sheep's skin, with the wool inwards; and, in summer, a thick coarse cloth, but no linen. Their boots are the rinds of trees, wrapped about their legs, with the thicker parts to guard the soles of their feet.

The diversions of the Poles are warlike and manly; such as vaulting, riding the great horse, dancing, hunting, skating, bull and bear-baiting. They usually travel on horse-back; a Polish gentleman will not travel a quarter of a mile without his horse. The Poles are so hardy, that they will sleep upon the ground, without any bed or covering in frost and snow. They

They never lie above stairs, nor are their apartments united; the kitchen is on one side, the stable on another, the dwelling-house in another part, and the gate in front. They are contented with a few small beds, and those who wish to lodge at another house must carry their beds with them. When any of the nobles sit down to dinner or supper, they are entertained with the sound of trumpets and other music, and have a number of gentlemen to wait on them at table. At an entertainment the Poles lay neither knives, forks, nor spoons, for every guest brings those articles with him. Bumpers are much in fashion here, and it is with difficulty that a person can get excused from pledging them.

It is impossible to describe the stateliness and pageantry of the Polish nobility.

We now proceed to a more particular description of Poland and Lithuania. They are both divided into provinces, and those provinces into palatinates.

PROVINCE OF GREAT POLAND.

THIS province, properly so called, comprehends five palatinates, viz. Posnania, Kalish, Si-radea, Liezyza, or Lenczicz, and Rawa.

The palatinate of POSNANIA contains PO-SEN, or POSNAN, a city on the river Warta, one hundred and forty-three miles west of Warsaw, and one hundred and thirty-five south of Dantzic. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Gnesna, and is defended by a double wall, a deep moat, and a castle, which stands on an island in the Warta. This city is supposed to be inferior to none in Poland except Cracow, and

and has a handsome cathedral, several other churches, some convents, an episcopal seminary, a town house, the bishop's palace, with many other public and private structures. Both the city and the suburbs are subject to frequent inundations, on account of the overflowing of the river. Here are three large annual fairs, much resorted to by the German traders. Most of the inhabitants are papists, though the Jews are pretty numerous, and have great privileges here, as well as in other parts of Poland. This city is indebted for a great part of its prosperity to its trade with Germany. The burghers enjoy considerable immunities.

The other towns of any note in this palatinate are Fraustadt, Lissa, Ravitz, and Kosten.

The Palatinate of Kalish contains **KALISH**, a large town, giving name to the palatinate, situated on the river Proсна, one hundred and thirty-three miles west of Warsaw, and twenty east of Silesia. It is surrounded with morasses, a wall, and towers, and is the residence of a palatine and a castellan. Also

RAZEMIERZ, a village, where, in 1708, the unfortunate count Patkul was broke alive on the wheel, and impaled, by order of Charles XII. king of Sweden.

GNESNA, or **GNESEN**, the capital of Great Poland, and the most ancient city in the kingdom, one hundred and twenty-one miles north-west of Warsaw, and one hundred and eighteen south of Dantzic. It is a large town, seated on a plain, and was formerly the metropolis of the whole kingdom, as well as the residence of the king. It is now the see of an archbishop, who is primate

mate of all Poland, and in whose presence it is death to draw a sword. The gates of the cathedral are of Corinthian brass. It contains a vast treasure of rich vestments, and vessels of gold and silver. The canons must be of noble birth.

KOLO is a small town.

The Palatinate of SIRADIA contains Sirad, a considerable town; Petrikow, a handsome walled town; and Radonisk and Wielun, two small places.

The Palatinate of LENCZICZ contains a town of the same name, and a smaller place called Unienow.

The Palatinate of RAWA contains two populous towns, named Rawa and Lowicz.

THE PROVINCE OF CUJAVIA.

THIS fertile province abounds in lakes, and contains the palatines of Brzesc, or Kujanske, and Wladeslaw. It comprehends the palatinates of Brzesc and Wladeslaw, in which are the small towns of Brzesc, Kruzwica, Kowal, and Wladeslaw.

THE PROVINCE OF MASOVIA.

THIS province, which contains the palatinates of Czersk and Ploczko, had formerly dukes of its own, who were dependent on Poland. Popery is the only religion tolerated in it.

The Palatinate of CZERSK contains, CZERSK, a handsome city on the Vistula, eighteen miles south of Warsaw, giving name to the palatinate. It is said to be the strongest town in this part of the country, having a fortress, in which is deposited that rich treasure called the Virgins.

WARSAW, the capital of the palatinate, of the province of Masovia, and perhaps of the whole kingdom. It is situated on the Vistula, almost in the center of the kingdom, one hundred and thirty-three miles north of Cracow, one hundred and fifty-four south-east of Dantzic, and three hundred north of Vienna. It is the royal residence, and contains many magnificent palaces and other buildings, besides churches and convents. It is said to contain about thirty thousand inhabitants; but a considerable number of them are foreigners. The streets are spacious though ill paved, and the greater part of the houses, especially in the suburbs, are mean wooden hovels. The city exhibits a strong contrast of wealth and poverty, which is in a great degree the same in every part of this wretched country. Though Cracow is by many considered as the capital of Poland, that honour is disputed by Warsaw. Here the king usually keeps his court, in a large square palace, standing amidst delightful groves and gardens; and at this place are held the general diets, when there is such a concourse of people, that great numbers of them are obliged to live in tents. It is large, populous, and pretty well fortified, having a stately castle, an arsenal, and a curious wooden bridge over the river. King Sigismund III. was the first who made this city the royal residence, and his successors have continued in it ever since: A statue of that monarch

narch ornaments the town, erected to his memory by his son Uladislaus IV. The valuable library of count Zaluski, opened in 1746, contains twenty thousand volumes, and is both an embellishment and an advantage to the place. Goods are brought hither by the Vistula, and other rivers, and sent from hence to Dantzic. Baron Polnitz, who continued some time at Warsaw, says he observed as much politeness there as at Paris: that the ladies, in particular, are sprightly, witty, and amiable, and remarkably fond of plays and music. In 1702, Charles XII. of Sweden, made himself master of this place, which happened to be then without a garrison, and fixed his head quarters at Praga. Near this city are two royal palaces, viz. Viasdow, pleasantly situated on the Vistula, about four miles from Warsaw: and Villanow, where, in 1732, Augustus II. reviewed his troops.

The other places, worth mentioning in this palatinate, are Pultusk, a town in which the Saxons were defeated by Charles XII. of Sweden, in 1703; and Lonza, a small town.

The Palatinate of PLOCZKO contains a small episcopal city of the same name, and two small towns, called Sierpecz, and Raclaz.

P O L I S H P R U S S I A.

POLISH PRUSSIA, is also called Royal Prussia, to distinguish it from Ducal Prussia, now a kingdom belonging to the king of Prussia. It was formerly a distinct political state, having no other connection with Poland than that of a perpetual alliance, and of being under the same sovereign: for, when the inhabitants put themselves under the protection

D

tion of Caffimir IV. in 1466, it was expressly stipulated that Prussia should have no concern with the republic of Poland. But this political constitution has since undergone great alterations, and excepting some few particular rights and privileges, Prussia is nearly on a footing with the other provinces.

The length is fifty miles, and its breadth extends from forty-eight to eighteen. It is bounded by Pomerania, Poland, Ducal Prussia, and the Vistula. The face of the country is diversified with mountains, woods, and lakes; but the south part has not much pasture ground and consequently not many cattle: nor does it contain a great deal of arable land, except about Dantzic. The lakes afford plenty of fish, and the woods honey, wax, game, wild boars, and roe-bucks. There are also some heaths in it of great extent: that of Johannergr is twenty-eight miles in length, and sixteen in breadth. The inhabitants consist partly of Poles, and partly of Germans.

With regard to religion, the protestants were, and still are very numerous here, though no pains have been spared to make them converts to popery, by persecution, oppression, or more gentle and alluring methods.

The Prussians are not obliged to go upon any military expedition out of the province; but the nobility of the country are always ready to appear in arms for their own defence. The burghers are exempted from this service; only the citizens of Thorn, in consideration of their privilege of purchasing estates, like the nobility, send about thirty-two horseman, &c. into the field. The three principal cities of Prussia have the privilege of coining gold and silver pieces of various sorts, impressed with the king's head on one side, and their respective arms on the reverse.

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The tribunal at Peterkau is the last resort for the nobility; but appeals lie from the magistrates of the three great towns to the royal assessorial court. The towns in Prussia are divided into great and small. The great are those of Dantzic, Thorn, and Elbing; the rest are denominated small, except such as belong to the bishops.

Polish Prussia contains four provinces, viz. Little Pomerania, or Pomerellia; Culmerland, or the palatinate of Culm; the prefecture, or palatinate of Marienburg; and Emmerland.

The Palatinate of POMERELLIA contains DANTZIC, or DANTZIG, the metropolis, standing on a branch of the Vistula, which, at the distance of four miles, is received into the Baltic. It is eighty-four miles north of Thorn, one hundred and fifty-four north-west of Warsaw, and two hundred and fifty-six north of Cracow. It is a bishopric, subordinate to the archbishopric of Gnesna, a free imperial city, and one of the Hanse-towns. It is hardly to be conceived how often this city has changed masters in the competitions for the crown of Poland, and on other occasions, and what sums have been extorted from it. Dantzic is large, opulent, and populous, and carries on a vast trade; being the principal mart and magazine of Poland, and one of the greatest granaries in the world. Though much superior either to Riga or Koningsberg, it is neither elegant nor handsome. The houses are in general lofty, and in an antique taste; and in most of the streets are trees. It consists of the Old and New Town, with their suburbs, has an excellent harbour, a great number of ships, and many valuable

privileges. The fortifications are of a vast extent, but being commanded by two hills on the south-west, cannot stand a long siege: Among the largest public buildings may be mentioned St. Mary's church, which is a stately fabric, with forty-eight altars, and a font, which was made at Antwerp, and cost twenty-thousand rix-dollars, a magnificent town-house, with a very lofty spire; the arsenal, the exchange, the square of St. Dominic, and a college of Jesuits. The chief export of this place is in corn from Poland. Hither Poland sends its commodities for exportation, and from hence it is chiefly supplied with those of other countries. Among the latter are great quantities of herrings, both Scotch and Dutch. The exports and imports consist of a variety of articles, furnishing business, and consequently wealth to the city.

But we are told, by Mr. Wraxall, that a languor and decay is visible, at this time, through every department; and the Vistula, which at this season of the year used to be covered with little vessels and boats, is no longer crowded. Freedom, it is true, yet reigns within these limits, though narrow, and waves her sacred banner on the ramparts: but how long this may continue is certainly matter of uncertainty and doubt. Most or all the suburbs, which are very populous and extensive, are already occupied by Prussian soldiery, who, on one side, are close to the very fortifications; a palisade only separating them from the Dantzic guards. The town has, however, two thousand disciplined troops, and proper engineers. Artillery, small arms, and ammunition, are in much greater quantity than can be wanted in the arsenal; the burghers capable of bearing arms amount to six thousand; their trenches and ramparts are very strong by nature

ture and art; and they can lay the surrounding country under water: yet I am fully of opinion that should it ever be invested and bombarded by his Prussian majesty, it would hold out but a very short time. It is computed that the inhabitants, including all the suburbs, are not less than eighty thousand. The environs are uncommonly beautiful. *Wraxhall's Tr.* 346.

Though Dantzic is under the protection of Poland, it is governed by its own magistrates in the form of a republic. They have four proconsuls, or burgomasters, out of whom, a burgrave, is appointed by the king, to represent him in the senate, and sign sentences of death. The magistrates determine all criminal causes, without appeal, and all civil causes not exceeding one thousand livres. The inhabitants are principally Germans and Lutherans, with a mixture of Calvinists and Papists. The city maintains a constant garrison of two hundred soldiers. Here is a Lutheran college, with seven professors, and one teacher of the Polish language. Without this city is also shown the place where the Russians bombarded it in 1734, soon after the coronation of Augustus III. A large tomb is also shown, in which the bodies of a thousand men, who were killed upon that occasion were deposited. The jurisdiction and territory of the city are of great extent. At the mouth of the Vistula, which is defended by several forts, lies a good harbour, belonging to Dantzic. This palatinate also comprehends the small towns of Oliva, Putzig, Dirschau, Schoenack, Stargard, Meve, Schwetz, and Neuburg.

CULMERLAND; or the Palatinate of CULM, contains

CULM, or CHELMNO, a large city, giving name to the province and the diocese, of which it is also the capital, stands on the Vistula, one hundred and sixty miles south of Dantzic. Though thinly inhabited, it was formerly a Hanse-town and free; but, having since lost much of its commerce, it is greatly decayed, and become subject to the bishop. The laws anciently prescribed for the government of this town are much esteemed all over Prussia. The bishop's palace is at Culmensee, a small town about five miles from hence.

THORN, the most ancient city in Prussia, and the first in rank of the three great towns, seated on the Vistula, about twenty-four miles south of Culm, and ninety-three north west of Warsaw. It is supposed to be the handsomest town in Polish Prussia, the streets being much broader, and the houses loftier than at Dantzic. The name is derived from the German word *Thor*, which signifies a gate, on account of its being one of the keys of the dominions of the Teutonic knights, who built and garrisoned it, to curb the Pagan Prussians: its arms are, at this day, a gate half open. In 1454, this city in conjunction with the rest of Polish Prussia, threw off the oppressive yoke of the Teutonic knights, and put itself under the protection of Poland on condition that it should enjoy its ancient rights and privileges, which are even superior to those of Dantzic. It has the right of coining money, of choosing its own magistrates, of purchasing fiefs and estates, of determining civil and criminal causes (the last even

even without appeal) and of sending representatives to the general diets. The German and Polish languages are said to be spoken here in the greatest purity. The famous astronomer Copernicus was born here in 1473, and died here in 1543.

This city was taken, after a long siege, in 1655; and retaken by the Poles, in 1658, after a siege of six months. The Swedes retook it afterwards, and the Poles regained it by surprise in 1665. Its fortifications, which were very considerable, were dismantled by Charles XII. of Sweden, who took it in 1703, after an obstinate resistance. Between the years 1708 and 1710, great numbers of its inhabitants were swept away by the plague. The wooden bridge over the Vistula here is said to be the longest in Europe, and one third of it is almost annually carried off by the rapidity of the current, and the shoals of ice. The celebrated Mecænas of literature, Henry Stoband, has been a great benefactor to the seminary here, as well as to the whole city by the fine library, printing-house, and college, where the students are now maintained, which he erected in 1594. The inhabitants of this town are mostly Lutherans, with a mixture of Papists, Calvinists, and Jews. The leaning tower here is much noticed; for, though the outside is built obliquely from the ground, and seems ready to fall, yet the floors and ceilings within are perfectly horizontal, and the walls perpendicular to the horizon. Great quantities of soap and gingerbread are made here, and exported. It is remarkable that the asparagus, which grows wild in the neighbourhood of Thorn, is not inferior to that which is cultivated in other countries. The inhabitants of this city are more commended for their civility and politeness, than those of any other town in Prussia.

This palatinate also comprehends the small towns of Graudenz, Schonsee, and Straßburg.

The Palatinate of MARIENBURG, comprehends MARIENBURG, a large town, standing on an eminence in a pleasant fertile country, near the river Nogat, which is a branch of the Vistula. It is twenty-five miles south-east of Dantzic, and seventy-two north of Thorn. It was formerly the chief city of the Teutonic knights, who founded it, and called it *Marienburg*, from an image of the Virgin found there when the fortifications were erected. In 1524 the Teutonic knights were totally driven out of Prussia, under Albert, marquis of Brandenburg, the thirty-fourth grand master of their order, and their power ultimately abolished.

We are informed by Mr. Wraxall, in his travels through the northern part of Europe, that the castle of Marienburg was square in its figure, surrounded by a trench of prodigious magnitude. The king of Prussia (continues he) has so mutilated and altered this part, by converting it into caserns for his soldiery, since he took possession of the town, that all its original beauty is lost, and the antiquarian searches in vain for the genuine traces of Teutonic magnificence, amid modern bricks and mortar. The chapel he has spared: there are two, one beneath the other. In the subterranean chapel, several grand masters of the order have been interred, and I was shewn the stones under which repose their remains: round them are inscriptions, but the character though time is illegible. The upper one is built in a very elegant style of Gothic architecture. Over these chapels is a very high tower, to the top of which I ascended. The prospect from the summit richly repaid my trouble:

ble: it extends east to Elbing, and west to Dantzic; and below lies the rich vale watered by the Vistula and the Nogat, terminated to the north by the Baltic. The city of Marienbourg itself contains nothing very extraordinary. It shared the same fate as Elbing on the same day, the Prussian foldiers having marched in without resistance. There are, at this time, sixteen hundred of them here, which equals the number of inhabitants in the place. I went fourteen miles from this place, to see the junction of the two great rivers of Polish Prussia, the Vistula, and the Nogat. It is one of the most picturesque and beautiful landscapes which nature presents. The first of these streams after having passed the cities of Thorn and Culm, divides into two great branches; the western, which retains its original name, empties itself into the Baltic beyond Dantzic: the eastern is called the Nogat, on which Marienbourg is situated. I stood some minutes on the extreme verge, where the rivers unite, in silent contemplation of this lovely prospect. *Wraxall's Tr.* 335.

The inhabitants, who are chiefly Roman catholics, are said to make the best mead in Prussia. Here is a magnificent church dedicated to the Virgin Mary; but the town is meanly built. The wooden bridge over the Nogat, at this place, is five hundred and thirty-nine feet in length.

ELBING, a large handsome city, situated on a river of the same name, has its source in the Drausen-lake.

This river says Mr. Wraxall, falls into the sea about five miles off, but admits only small vessels: Pillau serving equally as the port to Koningsberg and Elbing. The Teutonic knights were lords of it for a considerable number of years; but in

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1450,

1450, the inhabitants ultimately shook off their yoke. From this æra we may date the splendor of its annals; they became rich, powerful, and commercial; they were respected throughout all the north, and even made war on the kings of Denmark and Sweden with success. Gustavus Adolphus took it, but his premature death, and the peace of Westphalia which followed in 1648, restored them again to their liberties. Charles XII. entered it by assault in the beginning of the present century, as it adhered to Augustus, his enemy; and the entrenchments of his camp are still visible at a small distance from the walls. It remained free since that time under the protection of Poland, to the diet of which kingdom it sent two members, till the 13th of September 1772, when his Prussian majesty's general took possession of it in the name of his master, and drove out the Polish garrison of two hundred men, who attempted to make some defence. The black eagle has now supplanted the cross, their ancient arms, and appears over every gate of the city. They already feel the rigour and rapacity of this new government, which threatens to swallow up all Polish Prussia, and to extinguish freedom and commerce in one general ruin.—The city itself contains about fifteen thousand inhabitants: the architecture of the houses is the most grotesque and singular I have seen in Europe; they terminate in a point, and almost all the upper stories are untenable, being designed for granaries, and not for residence. It was formerly fortified in the Gothic taste, and surrounded by a trench; but even these feeble ramparts are in a great measure demolished, since it has become subject to its new master. Great treasures were discovered here a few years ago. They are contained in three large coffers,
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in a vaulted apartment of the town hall, where they had lain untouched a number of years. There is not any specie, the whole being plate, or ornaments worn by the priests in the celebration of divine service. The exquisite delicacy of the workmanship constitutes their chief value, the intrinsic worth not exceeding 25,000 ecus, or 6000l sterling. *Wraxall's Tr.* 326.

The streets of the city are narrow, but it contains ten churches, in which divine service is performed. The inhabitants are a mixture of Lutherans, Papists, and Calvinists.

Stum, and Chrisburg, in this palatinate are small towns.

E R M L A N D.

THIS division of Polish Prussia is surrounded by Ducal Prussia, and is also subject to its bishop and chapter. A provincial diet is held here, consisting of the nobility, burghers, judges, and freemen; but the district sends no deputies to the Prussian diets: though the bishop always assists at them, and takes care of its interests. The places in it worth mentioning are,

FRAUENBURG, a small town, situated in a sandy plain on the sea shore, containing the bishop's cathedral and a chapter. Copernicus was a canon of this cathedral, but his remains were interred at Thorn, the place of his nativity.

In this division are also the towns of Braunschweig, Heilsburg, Kessel, and St. Mary.

LITTLE POLAND.

LITTLE POLAND, properly so called, comprehends the three palatinates of Cracow, Sandomir, and Lublin. The following is the principal place in

The Palatinate of CRACOW, viz. Cracow, the capital, of the palatinate and of the kingdom of Poland, though not the usual residence of the king, is seated at the conflux of the Vistula and Radawa, about the middle of the palatinate; thirty-six miles east of the confines of Silesia, forty east of Germany one hundred and thirty-five south west of Warsaw and one hundred and eighty-five north east of Vienna. It is the largest and best-built city in Poland, the houses being of free-stone, four or five stories high, and covered with boards, cut into the form of tiles. The public buildings are magnificent; among which the cathedral of St. Stanislaus, the church of St. Mary in the grand place, surrounded with four rows of very fine buildings, with fifty other churches, and seventeen religious houses, in the castle, city, and suburbs, together with the noble monasteries of the Jesuits and Dominicans, are the most considerable. The king is crowned in this city, and the regalia are kept in the cathedral, where also is the royal sepulchre. The bishop of Cracow is duke of Sierveria, and often cardinal. His revenues exceed those of his metropolitan, the archbishop of Gnesna, and amount to forty thousand dollars per annum.

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The cathedral is dedicated to St. Stanislaus, formerly bishop of this see, who was murdered by Boleslaus II. at the altar, for being too officious in his admonitions and reproofs. The king and nobles walk in procession to his shrine, which is of silver, the day before the coronation, in order to expiate the offence, and often make very valuable offerings. Masses are said in the church, day and night, without intermission. On the other side of the river is the Casimercz, which is a kind of suburb to Cracow, and contains the university. There are two other suburbs of Cracow, called Kleparz and Stradomo. The castle, which contains the king's palace, several churches, and other buildings, is defended by walls, towers, and bastions. The king's apartments are adorned with paintings and statues finely executed. Though this city is not in so flourishing a state as it has been, and has lost much of its trade, it is full of gentry and the most wealthy of the clergy; and is the seat of the supreme court of judicature, the palatine, and castellan. In the neighbourhood are salt-works, which yield a vast revenue, and contain salt of four different sorts: Upwards of seven hundred men are said to be employed in these works. In 1702, the Swedes defeated the Poles near this city; after which they entered it, and compelled it to pay sixty thousand dollars: but, in 1705, the Poles retook it.

The smaller places in this palatinate, are Zator, Severia, and Slaucow.

The Palatinate of SANDOMIR contains SANDOMIR, the capital, situated on an eminence near the Vistula, seventy-five miles south of Warsaw. The delightful situation of this place rendered it

it the favourite residence of Cassimir the Great, and other kings of Poland. Here the same king Cassimir died of a surfeit, occasioned by eating too much fruit, of which this district has the finest in Poland. The chief court of justice for the palatinate is held here.

The smaller towns in this palatinate are Checiny, Radom, and Pilsno.

THE PALATINATE OF LUBLIN.

LUBLIN, a small city, giving name to the palatinate, surrounded with a wall and ditch, fifty-five miles south of Warsaw, and one hundred and thirty north-east of Cracow. Here are several churches and convents; and great numbers of Jews live in the suburbs, where they have a spacious synagogue. This is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Gnesna, and contains the chief tribunal for Little Poland. Three annual fairs are held here, each of which continues a month: they are frequented by great numbers of German, Greek, Armenian, Arabian, Russian, Turkish, and other merchants.

Kazemierz, Urzedow, and Lukow, are small places.

PODLACHIA; OR, THE PALATINATE OF BIELSK.

AUGUSTOW, a handsome town, situated on a lake, so named from its founder, king Sigismund Augustus.

BIELYSTOK, a town, great part of which was destroyed by fire, in 1753. Count Braniki has

has a seat and gardens in the neighbourhood, which, for their elegance, may be called the Versailles of Poland.

BIELEZ, a considerable town, which, though built with wood, is a place of great trade, carried on chiefly by the Jews. It is seated on the river Biala, which falls into the Narew.

Tyroczyn and Mialnic, are also respectable towns.

LITTLE, OR RED RUSSIA.

THIS country, which was formerly governed by its own dukes, contains the palatinates of Chelm, Belz, and Lemberg. The following are the principal places in

THE PALATINATE OF CHELM.

CHELM, a city giving name to the palatinate, being also the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Lemberg; but the residence of the bishop is at Krasnostaw. Here is also a Greek bishop, who has a cathedral, and is subject to the metropolitan of Kiow. A castellan and starosta reside in this city, in which a diet and a court of justice are also held.

KRASNOSTAW, a small city on the Viepriz, being the residence of the bishop of Chelm, and a starosta; and in which a court of judicature is held. Maximilian, archduke of Austria, after he had been defeated by Zamoyfky, to whom he was obliged to surrender himself prisoner, was confined

confined in this town, in 1588; but was set at liberty the following year, on his renouncing all claim to the crown of Poland.

ULODAW, a small town on the river Bug.

THE PALATINATE OF BELZ.

HORODLA, a town on the river Bug, in which a provincial diet and court of judicature are held. It is also the residence of a starosta.

ZAMOSKI, a well-fortified town, built by Zamoski, great chancellor of Poland, in a pleasant plain near the river Vefna. It is adorned with a stately cathedral, several other churches, and a charitable foundation called *Mons Pietatis*. Here is also a decayed university, of which the bishop of Chelm is perpetual chancellor.

The smaller places are Belz and Rava.

THE PALATINATE OF LEMBURG.

LEMBURG, the capital, a large opulent city, tolerably well fortified in the Polish manner, having two castles, one within the other. It is situated at the feet of mountains on the river Peltew, eighty miles north-east of the borders of Hungary, and one hundred and fifty-four north-east of Cracow. It is the see of a popish archbishop, containing a magnificent cathedral, and several other churches. Among the many rich convents here, that of the Dominicans is said not to have its equal in Poland. Here is also a college of Jesuits, with a seminary, an arsenal, a public granary, two Jewish schools, and a Car-

melite monastery which is fortified, serving as a citadel to the castle. A court of judicature is also held in this town, in which is an annual winter fair. The trade of this place is chiefly carried on by Jews and Armenians, who are allowed great privileges; but no protestants are tolerated.

PREMISLAW, a populous episcopal city on the river San, fifty-three miles west of Lemburg. It has a Jesuits' college, a castellan, and the starosta. A provincial diet and court of justice are also held here. Besides the popish bishop, who is suffragan to the archbishop of Lemburg, a Greek prelate also resides in this town. Several annual fairs are held here.

The smaller towns are Jaroslaw, Resow, Sannock, Krosya, Halicz, Brezan, and Suniatyn.

P O D O L I A.

THIS fertile country is much exposed to the inroads of the neighbouring Tartars, who live on plunder, and have often ravaged it in the most cruel manner. It comprehends two palatinates, Podolia and Braclaw, in which are the following places; viz. Caminieć-Podolski, Paniowce, Braclaw, Winnica, and Krasna.

V O L H I N I A.

THIS country is very fertile in grain; and rosemary, asparagus, &c. grow wild in the woods here, in such perfection as to be hardly distinguishable from those cultivated in gardens. Volhinia was annexed to Poland at a diet held at Lublin, in 1569. The Tartars, besides a great booty, carried off thirty thousand of the inhabitants

bitants of this country to be sold as slaves, in the year 1618. This country contains two districts, Kzeminiec and Luck, in which the most considerable places are Luck, Zazlaw, Olika, Sokal, and Czartorysk.

L I T H U A N I A.

THIS extensive country is called by the Poles, Litewski, and by the natives, Letwa: it was formerly independent, but in 1501 united to the kingdom and the republic of Poland. It is bounded by Livonia, the Baltic, and part of Muscovy, on the north; by another part of Muscovy on the east; by Poland and Russia on the west; and Red Russia, Volhinia, and Podolia, on the south. It is about three hundred and sixty miles in length, and three hundred and forty in breadth, but very much indented both ways. Lithuania was anciently over-run with wood, and it still has a great many forests, which produce timber, tar, pitch, wax, and honey; and abound with wild boars, elks, buffaloes, uri, wild horses, and wild asses. The lakes, which are very numerous, are well stored with fish, but the air, on account of these forests and lakes, is frequently thick and foggy. Its principal rivers are the Dnieper, and the Dnieman. The land produces plenty of buck-wheat, and other corn, the pastures are luxuriant, and the flocks and herds numerous. Provisions are therefore extremely cheap, though agriculture is much neglected.

The principal nobility have large estates, and live in great pomp and splendour. Popery is the established religion in Lithuania; but Lutherans, Calvinists, Jews, Turks, Greeks, and Socians, are very numerous. This country was governed

governed by its own dukes, till it was united to Poland, when the great duke Jagella married Hedwig, the dowager of Lewis, king of Poland and Hungary. It had dukes even after that time, but these were subordinate to the king: and at this day, though one diet serves for both countries, each has its peculiar laws, customs, dialect, and privileges.

Respecting the administration of justice, the tenth part of what is adjudged, in all real actions, goes to the judge's box, and is immediately paid in court: and in personal actions, he claims half the damages given. The language is a dialect of the Sclavonic; a barbarous kind of Latin is also spoken here, as in Poland.

Lithuania is divided into nine palatinates. Another division is into Lithuania, properly so called, and Lithuanian Russia. Some also include under it Samogitia and Courland, which is a fief of Poland.

Lithuania, properly so called, contains the palatinates of WILNO and TROCKIE. In which the most considerable places are

WILNO, or VILNA, the capital of the palatinate of the same name, and of the great duchy of Lithuania, one hundred and fifty-two miles east of Königsberg, and two hundred and thirty-five east of Dantzic. It is seated on several little eminences, in a mountainous country, and is a large populous town, with two considerable suburbs. In the old ruinous palace is the arsenal, and the hall where the court of justice is held; opposite to which stands the magnificent church belonging to the castle, which was built in 1386. The treasury belonging to this church is extremely rich. It is also remarkable for the elegant mar-

ble chapel of St. Cassimir, whose silver shrine is said to weigh thirty quintals. This city contains upwards of forty churches, all of which belong to the Roman catholics, except one for Lutherans, another for Calvinists, a Jewish synagogue, a Tartarian church, and a Greek church. Wilno has suffered many devastations: in 1748, a dreadful conflagration happened in it. In 1749, another fire happened by lightning, which consumed six churches, the council-house, eight palaces, and two hundred and seventy-seven other stone buildings. The chapel of St. Cassimir was also burnt, and the loss sustained by the destruction of this edifice alone, amounted to some millions. The churches have been since rebuilt, at a very great expence, and some of them in a more elegant manner than before; but the city has not yet recovered its former grandeur. It is the see of a bishop, and has a Jesuit's college, in which the sciences are taught by several professors. The magistrates are ennobled by their office, and their children have the privilege of purchasing estates.

TKOCKIE, the capital of the palatinate of the same name, a large town situated among lakes, and built with wood. It has two castles, and, in the parish-church, a celebrated image of the Virgin-Mary. The dukes of Lithuania formerly resided in this town,

KOWNO, or CAUEN, a handsome town at the conflux of the Wilia and Niemen, having a good trade. It is famous for its mead, and an excellent liquor called lippits. Here is a college of Jesuits, to which belongs an excellent church. The Roman catholics have also ten churches in this town, and the Lutherans one.

GRODNO,

GRODNO, a large handsome city, situated on the Niemen, sixty-three miles south-west of Trockie, and one hundred and sixty north-east of Warsaw. Here is a handsome palace, built by the late king of Poland, with an old castle, a Jewish synagogue, a Jesuits' college, nine popish and two Greek churches, a Carmelite nunnery, a palace belonging to prince Radzevil, and another to the Sapiehan family. Every third year a diet is held at this place. A provincial diet, and a court of judicature is also held here.

The smaller towns in the palatinate are Braszaw, Lida, Oszmiana, Wilkomerz, Calvarie, Birze, and Merecz.

SUPRASL, a very opulent convent of monks, of the order of St. Basil, much frequented by pilgrims, on account of some pretended miracles performed in it,

LITHUANIAN RUSSIA,

THIS territory contains the provinces of Polesia, Black Russia, and White Russia. In which the most considerable places are, Bezesk, a large wooden city on the river Bog; Nowogrodeck, a pretty large town; and Mohilow, a large handsome town on the Dnieper. The smaller places are Pinsk, Bialla, Nieswitez, Slonim, Sluck, Rosana, Minsk, Mscislaw, Witepsk, Szklow, Orza, and Polock,

THE DUCHY OF SAMOGITIA.

THIS territory anciently belonged to Lithuania: It is mountainous and woody, but has many

many fertile spots, as well as lakes and rivers. The country yields some good corn and pastures, and the woodswarm with bees, which produce great quantities of honey. It gives title to a bishop, and has an upper starosta, or palatine, and a castellan. It contains a great many small towns, but none of them are of any note, except Wornic, or Miedniki, where the bishop of Samogitia resides; and Rosienie, a town on the river Dubista, where the provincial diet and court of judicature are held. The peasants in this country are rude, boorish, and little better than savages. Some of them live to be so very old, that it is no uncommon thing to see persons from a hundred to a hundred and twenty years of age. Their miserable cottages seldom consist of more than one room, which serves for themselves and cattle.

C O U R L A N D.

THIS duchy is bounded on the north by the gulph of Riga and Livonia; on the east by Lithuania, properly so called; on the west by the Baltic; and on the south by Samogitia. Its length is about two hundred miles, and its breadth from eighty to forty. A considerable part of the country consists of woods and swamps; hence Courland roads are remarkably bad. In spring and autumn the meadows and low grounds are under water, by which means they are greatly improved. This country contains good arable lands, and fine pastures, and produces great quantities of excellent flax. The air is clear and healthy; and though the winters are severe and tedious, and the summers not very long, yet the excellency of the soil, the cold summer nights and refreshing

refreshing dews, with the succeeding hot days, ripen both their summer and winter corn.

Courland anciently belonged to the Teutonic knights; but, in the year 1461, the grand master of that order became the first duke: he was a nobleman of the name of Ketler, and in his family it continued till they became extinct in the person of Ferdinand. This was the same who fought so gallantly against Charles XII. at the battle of the Duna: he resided at Dantzic in a kind of exile from his country, and deprived of his natural inheritance. His predecessor, the young duke Frederic, had been married to Anna daughter of Ivan, elder brother of Peter the Great, and which princess afterwards ascended the Russian throne. He only lived six weeks after his nuptials, being carried off in the bloom of life, by a violent fever. His widow retained possession of the government to the exclusion of Ferdinand, till the death of Peter the second, when she was called to the empire by a faction. Though this event obliged her to leave Mittau, and return to Petersburg, yet her power continued; and, on the death of the duke, without issue, she placed her favourite count Biron in the duchy, though count Saxe had been previously elected by the nobility, and endeavoured to make some resistance. This Biron was many years her minister, and possessed the most unbounded power over both his mistress and her subjects. He was not of noble extraction, his father having been in a mean station under the Ketlers; but his genius and the favour of the empress, raised him to the highest dignities. She left him regent at her death, under the infant emperor Ivan; an office which he held only fifteen days, and from the possession of which he was sent into banishment, first into Siberia, and afterwards

wards to Jereſlaſ, near three hundred miles beyond Moſcow. There he remained till the late empreſs Elizabeth's death, when Peter the Third, once more recalled him, and reſtated him in his honours and dominions. During his diſgrace, Courland was governed for ſeveral years, by the four great officers of ſtate, who preſide over the different departments, till prince Charles of Saxony got footing in the duchy by the influence of his father the king of Poland, and held it three years, when the change of the ſovereign in Ruſſia obliged him again to evacuate it. The late duke at his death, tranſmitted the inheritance to his ſon, the reigning prince. The duke is only the firſt nobelman of the ſtate, his power not extending many degrees over the other nobility: they pay him no taxes or duties, and are abſolute lords on their own eſtates; having power of life and death over their vaſſals. Courland is a fief of Poland, and as ſuch his preſent highneſs did homage, in his father's name and his own to the reigning king, on his acceſſion at Warſaw. This duchy is exceedingly fertile, particularly in grain, from the duties on which, and his own patrimonial eſtates, the revenue chiefly ariſes. This ſeldom falls ſhort of 400,000 dollars *, and amounts ſometimes to almoſt double the ſum, as the price of grain determines it in a great meaſure. *Wraxall's Tr.* 289.

This duchy, ſays, the author laſt cited, is an exact reſemblance of Poland in miniature; the ſame ariſtocracy, the ſame turbulence, the ſame political evils exiſt in both. If the dukes ſhould leave male iſſue, it is probable that Ruſſia will preſerve the inheritance in the Biron family, as

* A coin about 3s. 6d. Engliſh.

they are the creatures of its own production, and entirely dependent on it; but, on a contrary event, the fate of Courland is very precarious. Poland is already dismembered and divided: Prussia invests it on one side, and between that kingdom and the empire of Muscovy, this little province may have the fate of its feudal parent, from the ambition and avidity of one or the other monarch. The rights of humanity, of justice, and of liberty, have been so trampled on, and despised, in the partition of Poland, that no future action of a similar nature can surprise in the present age. *Wraxall's Tr.* 295.

Courland is well supplied with fish, black cattle, horses, iron ore, minerals, quarries of stone, timber, chalk, and mineral springs. Amber is also found here on the coast of the Baltic. What the inhabitants can spare of these and other commodities, are carried to Riga, Liban, Windaw, and Memel, to be transported to other countries. One of their methods of husbandry, which is found advantageous, is to let the water remain upon a piece of low ground for two or three years, and then drain it. Afterwards it requires but an easy ploughing, and it bears excellent crops for three successive years. Then it is laid again under water as before.

Lutheranism was introduced here in 1615: The Lutherans and Papists are now the two principal sects; among which, however, a mixture is found of Calvinists, Greeks, and Jews, who are all tolerated, though excluded from all public employments. Arians, Socinians, Arminians, or Anabaptists, are not permitted to settle in the duchy.

The ordinary judges here are the four captains, superintendants, or bailiffs, two for Courland, and two for Semigallia. An appeal lies

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from these to the high council, in which the duke sits in person; and from thence, if the sum exceeds six thousand florins, to the king of Poland. Disputes between the duke and the nobility are decided only by the king in person. Most of the towns are under the judicature of their own magistrates. Every two years a diet is held at Mittaw, to which every parish sends representatives. The duchy consists of three parts or divisions, viz. Courland, properly so called, Semigallia, and the district of Pilten. In which the most considerable places are

LIBAU, a town on the Baltic, consisting principally of timber houses, thirty miles south-west of Goldingen, and forty-two north of Memel. It has a good road and harbour. The duke's ships are usually built in this town, and here a court of admiralty is held. As the harbour has not a sufficient depth of water for ships of burden, they are unloaded in the road; but, since duke John Ernest, in 1737, caused it to be cleared, and the future accumulation of mud and sand to be prevented by a water-work, it is rendered very commodious for light vessels. Upwards of one hundred and fifty ships usually arrive in this port in the course of a year, to load with hemp, linseed, and naval stores.

MITTAW, the capital of the duchy of Courland, the seat of its diets, and the residence of the duke. It is seated on the Aa, thirty-two miles south of Riga, and seventy-five south-east of Goldingen. It was several times taken by the Swedes, particularly by Gustaphus Adolphus, in 1621, and again in 1701; and afterwards by the Muscovites, in 1703: but as often recovered. Here a magnificent palace was begun by the late duke John Ernest; but, upon his banishment, the

the building was discontinued; it was, however, continued on his return. Under it, in a vault, are deposited the remains of many of the dukes, in coffins of fine copper, curiously decorated. Among these princes, lie the remains of a peasant, also in a copper coffin, as a recompence for his heroic fidelity, in voluntarily suffering himself to be shot, instead of duke Ferdinand, by some noblemen, who had conspired against the life of that prince.

The plan of the palace of Mittaw, says Mr. Wraxall, is too magnificent and princely for so little a sovereign; though, as he maintains neither a military or naval armament, he is a rich man with œconomy. Its situation is very agreeable, on a small eminence just within the town, and washed by the river Aâ, which is pretty broad, and winds most delightfully through the meadows which surround it. This country is mostly flat, finely wooded, and resembles exceedingly some parts of England.—The river is navigable to Riga for small boats; and, as there are always a number of these vessels going and returning, the view of the sails apparently moving over the fields is vastly picturesque. I have not seen a more elegant landscape, than presents itself from the different balconies of the palace. The town of Mittaw is not very ancient: a private gentleman of Courland founded it in 1426: the inhabitants are about three or four thousand. Most of the houses are of wood, and very mean in their appearance. It is horridly payed. *Wraxall's Tr.* 293.

In the town are many gardens, and open places, with a popish church, and two Lutheran churches, and a beautiful Calvinist church.

DOMESNESS, a promontory projecting into the Gulph of Livonia, on which are two beacons, wherein large fires are kept burning from the 1st of August to the 1st of January. The nobleman, on whose estate these beacons stand, receives the annual sum of two thousand five hundred rix-dollars from the city of Riga, for keeping up these fires, and supplying them with fuel.

The smaller towns are Goldingen, Windaw, Scaburg, Hasenpoth, Amboten, and Angermund.

T H E
K I N G D O M
O F
P R U S S I A.

BOUNDARIES, EXTENT.

AUTHORS disagree about the origin of the name of this country, but the most probable derivation of it seems to be from the Boruffi, its ancient inhabitants, especially as there is a great affinity between their language and that of Russia, of which it is a dialect. By the kingdom of Prussia is not meant that which is generally called Royal Prussia, and is subject to Poland; but that which by some writers is called Ducal Prussia, and belongs to the house of Brandenburg. It is bounded to the north by part of Samogitia; to the east by part of Lithuania; to the west by Polish Prussia, and the Baltic; and to the south by Poland Proper, and Masovia. Its greatest length is about one hundred and sixty miles, and its greatest breadth one hundred.

AIR, SOIL, PRODUCE, RIVERS, LAKES.

FOR the space of four months in the summer, the air is temperate, warm, and pleasant; and the weather is generally favourable for bringing the
fruits

fruits of the earth to maturity ; but the winter^s are long and severe, and the autumns often wet and stormy. The air, however, is purified by frequent high winds. The soil is fruitful in corn, flax, hemp, fruit, hops, and pasture. Prussia also abounds with cattle, a good breed of horses, sheep, deer, and game. Wild beasts, such as bears, wolves, lynxes, wild-boars, and foxes, are not uncommon in this kingdom. The lakes and rivers furnish a supply of fish, and, on the coasts of the Baltic, are found great quantities of amber, in which are often inclosed leaves, minerals, flies, spiders, gnats, ants, fishes, frogs, worms, drops of water, pieces of wood, and grains of sand ; whence it is evident that it was once in a fluid state. It is generally found on large trees, buried under ground in a vitriolic earth. A great deal of it, washed off the trees by the waves in stormy weather, is found upon the sea-shore. The profit arising from the amber is one of the Prussian regalia, and amounts annually to about twenty-six thousand dollars. In this country is also found a sort of manna, and a kind of worm, or insect, of whose eggs is made the beautiful red colour called St. John's blood. Wood and pit-coal for fuel are plenty in this territory ; which also affords a supply of wax, honey, pitch, &c. Prussia is for the most part champaign and level, with several good ports on the Baltic, and carries on a considerable trade. Great quantities of glass are made in this country of the ashes of wood, and the largest sort of pebbles.

The principal rivers are the Vistula, the Pregel, the Memel, or Mammel, the Passarge, and the Alle, which, with the lakes, bays, and canals, afford great conveniencies for transporting merchandise: but, at certain times of the year, and during

ring high winds, great damage is sometimes occasioned by their inundations.

HISTORY, RELIGION.

THIS territory was first subject to certain sovereign dukes, till the knights of the Teutonic order conquered it in the thirteenth century, in which they committed the most inhuman barbarities; for, instead of converting the natives, as they pretended, they extirpated them, and settled German colonies in their stead. In 1454, half the Prussians revolted from the knights, and put themselves under the protection of Poland. . This occasioned an almost continual war between that country and the Teutonic order, till 1525, when, by a treaty concluded at Cracow, it was agreed that Albert, margrave of Brandenburg, the thirty-fourth and last master of the order, should have the eastern part, under the title of a duchy, and that it should descend to his and his brother's male heirs, as a fief of Poland. The same Albert embraced Lutheranism, persuaded most of the knights to marry, and introduced the reformed religion. In 1657, the elector Frederic-William had the sovereignty of this confirmed to him and his heirs, on condition of his returning to the Poles, in case of the failure of heirs male. In 1701, it was raised to a kingdom by the elector Frederick, who was soon after acknowledged as king of Prussia by all the other Christian powers.

Though his Prussian majesty obtained his legal title from this small territory, it may be considered as little more than a title; for, compared to his electoral dominions of Brandenburg, it is of small im-

importance. It is therefore as elector of Brandenburg that the Prussian monarch has so respectable a weight in the scale of Europe. Hence he has fixed his residence in that electorate, and established his seat of government at the court of Berlin.

The king of Prussia, and his whole court, are Calvinists, but great part of the inhabitants are Lutherans and Calvinists; and the rest are Papists, Anabaptists, and Socinians. King Frederick II. chose to be called a Reformed Christian, rather than a Calvinist or Lutheran, though he professed the highest veneration both for Calvin and Luther.

MANUFACTURES, TRADE, INHABITANTS, ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

THE manufactures of this country are continually improving and increasing; particularly the glass and iron works, paper, powder, copper and brass mills; cloth, camblet, linen, woven silk, stockings, &c. The exports from Prussia consist principally of naval stores, corn, glass, and iron-works, amber, linseed, hemp-seed, fish, mead, tallow, caviar, furs, oatmeal, &c. of which a considerable part is brought from the great duchy of Lithuania. In the course of a year, about five hundred vessels are loaded from Prussia with these commodities, and chiefly from Königsberg.

The inhabitants are composed of Prussians who are descended from Germans, Lithuanians, and Poles, with a mixture of French, English, and Hollanders, amounting in the whole to about six hundred thousand. Great numbers of foreigners, particularly Saltzburgers, have settled in this country, since the beginning of the present century. The manners, and customs of the inhabitants

tants differ but little from those of many of the inhabitants of Germany.

Of the four orders of knighthood, that of the Order of Concord was instituted by Christian Ernest, margrave of Brandenburg, in 1660. Frederic III. elector of Brandenburg, and afterwards king of Prussia, instituted in 1685, the Order of Generosity. The same prince instituted the Order of the Black Eagle, on the day of his coronation. The Order of Merit was instituted by Frederic II. in 1740.

GOVERNMENT, REVENUES, MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT.

THE government of this kingdom, under the sovereign, is vested in a council, which superintends the affairs of the whole kingdom, political, civil, ecclesiastical, and feudal. Subordinate to his high college are a war and demesne chamber, and several tribunals of justice. His Prussian majesty, by means of the happy situation of this kingdom, and its inland navigation, derives an amazing revenue from it, though about half a century ago it was the seat of boors and barbarism. His revenues now, since the accession of Polish or Royal Prussia, must be greatly increased.

With respect to the military establishment, the king keeps a large body of well-disciplined troops here, as in all his other dominions. Every regiment has a particular district assigned it, the young men of which being registered in case of necessity, may be ordered to march and join the regiment.

Prussia is sometimes divided into three parts, called Samland, Natangen, and Oberland, each

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of which are again divided into jurisdictions or governments. Others divide it into the German and Lithuanian departments: the former of which contains two hundred and eighty parishes, and the latter one hundred and five.

The principal places in these divisions are, **KONINGSBERG**, or *Mons Regius*, the capital of the kingdom of Prussia, seated on the river Pregel, over which it has seven bridges. It is fifty-five miles north-east of Elbing, eighty-four from Dantzic, and one hundred and fifty-three north of Warsaw. It is a large city, surrounded with a rampart eight miles in circumference, having thirty-two ravelins, and eight gates. The number of houses is about three thousand eight hundred, that of the inhabitants sixty thousand *. Koninsberg was founded and named in honour of Ottocarius, or Premislaus I. king of Bohemia, in 1255, when that king came to the assistance of the Teutonic knights against the Pagan Samlanders. It properly contains three towns, formed by so many branches of the river, with their respective suburbs. The name of these three parts are the Altstadt, or Old Town; the Lobenicht, and Kneiphoff.

Mr. Wraxall says, This is a vast city: I do not believe it is less than Copenhagen; and it contains fifty thousand inhabitants, exclusive of eight thousand soldiers. It is a great collection of houses and streets, without elegance, beauty or order: the buildings are in a vile taste, and mostly old. Here is an academy, founded by one of the first dukes of Prussia. Koningsberg has a considerable trade in hemp and flax, but it is seven German miles, or thirty-five English, to Pillaw, the sea-port at the embouchure of the

Wraxall says 58,000, including soldiers.

river

river Pregel, so that only small vessels can come up to the town. The river is narrow here, but there are some very pleasant gardens on its banks. *Wraxall's Tr.* 318.

This city was formerly a Hanse-town, and its trade is still very considerable. The town-house, and the exchange are stately buildings. Here is a magnificent palace, the greater part of which was built by the margrave Albert : it is very large, and is the seat of most of the public offices, courts, and colleges. Its gardens and parks add greatly to its magnificence. The citadel, called Fredericksburg, built in 1657, is a regular square, surrounded with broad ditches, and the river Pregel. Besides several hospitals, and alms houses here is a charitable fund, from which upwards of eight hundred persons receive weekly pensions. Most of the inhabitants of Konigsberg are Germans, who are of the Lutheran profession. A colony of French Calvinists, consisting of about fifty families, is also settled here. Commerce has introduced the Polish and Lithuanian languages into this city.

PILLAW, the bulwark and key of Prussia towards the sea, a strong city, with a fine harbour, at the mouth of the bay or lake called Fresche-haff, thirty miles west of Konigsberg. The town and harbour are defended by a strong fort, well planted with cannon. It is a place of good trade, in which the larger vessels, consigned to Konigsberg, deliver and take in their cargoes ; the Fresche-haff not having a sufficient depth of water to carry them up to Koningsberg.

Pillaw serves equally as the port to Koninsberg and Elbing. *Wraxall's Tr.* 326.

The peninsula on which the town stands, is so pleasant and fertile, that it is called the Paradise

of Prussia. In the village of Wogram, not far from hence, lies the Storbude, where the sturgeons are boiled and packed up, and caviar made of their roes; of which the greater part is exported to England. This place was taken by the Swedes in 1625, and restored to the elector of Brandenburg by the treaty of Oliva in 1660.

BARTENSTEIN, a handsome well-built town in the division of Natangen, seated on the river Alle. It contains an old castle, and has the precedence of all the towns in Prussia.

RASTENBURG, a handsome town, with a castle, on the river Guber. It is inclosed with a wall, and, in 1669, was also surrounded with a rampart. It contains several handsome churches, hospitals, and alms-houses.

MARIENWERDER, a handsome town, with a castle on the frontiers of Pomerania, and not far from the Vistula. The cathedral, which was erected in the thirteenth century, is the largest church in the kingdom of Prussia; and, by its strong breast works, seems to have formerly served for a fortress. In 1709, the czar Peter the Great, and Frederic I. king of Prussia, had an interview at this place. This town has often received great injury by inundations, war, and fire.

HOLLAND, a handsome fortified town, on an eminence near the river Weeske, with a strong fortress. It is strong from its situation, and is surrounded with a wall and towers. The streets are long and broad, and the houses well built. Here are two churches, a magazine for corn, and
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some salt-works. Holland has experienced many vicissitudes in the frequent wars between the Poles and the Swedes.

MEMEL, a fortified town with a harbour, at the north extremity of Prussia on a lake called the Curische-Haff, eighty miles north-east of Königsberg, and two hundred and twenty-three north of Warsaw. It is a place of good trade, whence considerable quantities of hemp, flax, thread, and linseed are exported. Memel is fortified with three whole, and two half bastions, with other works all in the modern manner. Here are three churches. This was formerly one of the hanse-towns, and now contains a royal magazine, and a salt factory.

TILSET, a large opulent city on the river Memel. Tilset properly so called, consists of two long streets of a proportionate breadth, which are called German street, and the High-street; contiguous to which is the suburb, called the Liberty. It contains about seven thousand inhabitants. Here are four churches, a royal provincial school, a foundation for widows, an hospital, and many other charitable institutions.

Here are also the towns of Augerberg, and Osterode, both considerable places; and the smaller towns of Barten, Mohrunen, Insterberg, Gumbinnen, Margrobawa, and Johannesburg.

RUSSIA; OR, MUSCOVY.

NAME, SITUATION, EXTENT.

VARIOUS have been the conjectures concerning the names, and the first inhabitants of this country. It is said to have had the name of *Russia* from the *Roffi*, its ancient inhabitants; a word which, in the Slavonic, signifies a collected nation, intimating the various people, or rather tribes, which were formerly its inhabitants. Others give the word *Rossia* an opposite signification, as dispersed, or scattered, on account of their having been originally wanderers, without any settled abode or government. The name of *Muscovy*, or *Moscovy*, is also variously derived: by some from *Meshech*, the sixth son of Japhet; some from the *Moschi*, or *Mosci*, mentioned by Strabo, the ancient inhabitants of this country, said to have come hither from Colchis; others from the river *Mosca*, which conferred its name to the city of Moscow; and, when that city became the metropolis of the country, the whole was thence denominated *Moscovia*, or *Moscovy*.

Muscovy is a very extensive country, lying between the forty-seventh and seventy-second degrees of north latitude, and between the seventy-third and sixty-fifth degrees of east longitude from London. It is supposed to extend fifteen hundred

hundred leagues from west to east, and six hundred from north to south; but its eastern limits cannot be easily ascertained, that part being an absolute desert, abandoned on account of the incursions of the Tartars; and the extreme cold has rendered the northern parts almost inaccessible.

Muscovy is also known by the name of White Russia, from its being covered with snow the greatest part of the year; and of Great Russia, from its vast extent. It stretches from the Frozen sea, or Northern ocean, as far east as Great Tartary, and the sea of Japan; on the south it is bounded by the Calmuck and Cuban Tartary, Persia, Georgia, the Caspian and Euxine seas; and on the west by Poland and Sweden. Russia is divided into four parts: Muscovy Proper, or Western Muscovy, Eastern Muscovy, Muscovite Tartary, and Muscovite Lapland. These are subdivided into provinces, amounting to a very considerable number; including some kingdoms and duchies, which have been conquered and subdued by the czars of Russia.

CLIMATE, SOIL, PRODUCE.

IN a country extending from the Temperate so far into the Frigid Zone, the climate must vary considerably in different places. In the southern parts of Russia, or Muscovy, the longest day does not exceed fifteen hours and an half; but in the most northern, the sun is seen in summer two months above the horizon. The country in general, though lying under different climates, is excessively cold in the winter. Towards the north the ground is covered near three quarters of the year with snow and ice; and, by the severity of the cold, many become maimed and

perish. This weather usually sets in about the latter end of August, and continues till the month of May; in which interval the rivers are frozen to the depth of four or five feet. Birds are frozen in their flights, and travellers in their sledges. In some provinces, the heat of the summer is as scorching, as the winter cold is rigorous. Dr. King, who resided eleven years in Russia, observes, that the cold in St. Petersburg, by Fahrenheit's scale, is, during the months of December, January, and February, usually from eight to fifteen degrees below 0; that is, from forty to fifty-two degrees below the freezing-point. The same writer remarks, that it is difficult for an inhabitant of our temperate climate to have any idea of a cold so great: but, to convey some idea of it, he says, when a person walks out in that severe weather, the cold makes the eyes water, and that water freezing, hangs in little icicles on the eye-lashes; and, as the common peasants usually wear their beards, they are seen hanging at the chin like a solid lump of ice. All the parts of the face, which are exposed, are very liable to be frozen. Drivers of carriages, in severe winters, are sometimes found frozen to death, on their seat. But, notwithstanding the severity of the cold in Russia, the inhabitants have such various means to guard against it, that they suffer much less from it than might be expected. The houses of those who are in tolerable circumstances are so well protected, both without doors and within, that they are seldom heard to complain of cold. The method of warming the houses in Russia is by an oven, constructed with several flues; and the country abounds with wood, which is the common fuel. The windows in the huts of the poor are very small, that as little cold may be admitted as possible: in the houses of persons of dis-

distinction, the windows are caulked up against winter, and usually have double glass frames. They can, indeed, regulate the warmth in their apartments by a thermometer, with great exactness, opening or shutting the flues to increase or diminish the heat. When the Russians go out, they have such warm cloathing, that they almost bid defiance to frost and snow. It is observable that the wind is seldom violent in the winter; but, when there is much wind, the cold is astonishingly piercing.

In the provinces which lie in the middle of the empire, the air is mild and temperate, and the soil produces all kinds of trees, fruits, &c. They are also well stocked with horned cattle; the woods abound in game; and the rivers are navigable, and furnished with abundance of excellent fish.

The soil of Muscovy varies more than the climate, according to the influence of the sun, and the situation of the country. All the warmer provinces produce wheat, barley, rye, oats, and pease, together with a variety of herbs and fruits; and the vegetation is so quick, that corn is frequently reaped in two months after it begins to appear above the surface of the ground. The natives use no other manure than the snow, which is supposed to enrich the ground, and to cherish and shelter the grain which is sown immediately after harvest. The great quantities of mushrooms, produced spontaneously in Russia, may be considered as a comfortable relief to the poor, while they appear as delicacies at the tables of the rich.

The most considerable articles in the œconomy of a Russian farm are wax and honey, by which the peasant is often enriched. His method is to cut down a great number of trees in the forests, and, sawing the trunks into a great many parts,

bores each of these, and stops up the hollow at both ends, leaving only a small hole for the admittance of the bees. The honey is thus secured from the attempts of the bear, who is extravagantly fond of it, and practises various experiments to make himself master of the luscious treasure. Of this honey the Russians make strong metheglin for their ordinary drink. They also extract from rye a spirit which they prefer to brandy.

Muscovy contains several rich mines of silver, lead, and iron, which yield a considerable revenue to the sovereign. This country also produces rhubarb, flax, hemp, and plenty of pasture for cattle. Among other vegetables we find here a particular kind of rice, called psnytha, plenty of excellent melons, and, in the neighbourhood of Astracan, the celebrated zoophyton, or animal plant, which the Muscovites call *bonnaret*, or *lambskin*, from its resemblance to that animal.

MOUNTAINS, RIVERS, LAKES, FORESTS.

RUSSIA is, in general, a level country, except towards the north, where there is a ridge of mountains, called *Zimnopoias*, or the Girdle of the Earth. On the western side of the Dnieper, part of the Carpathian mountains erect their heads; and, between the Black and the Caspian sea, Mount Caucasus borders a range of vast plains, extending to the sea of Oral. From Petersburg to Pekin, through Independent Tartary, hardly a mountain is to be met with on the road; and from Petersburg to the north of France, by the road of Dantzic, Hamburg, and Amsterdam, nothing hardly entitled to the appellation of a hill is to be seen.

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The principal rivers are the Wolga, or Volga, formerly known by the name of Rha: it issues from the lake Uranow, near the frontiers of Lithuania, directs its course south-easterly, and, after traversing the greatest part of Muscovy, and winding a course of three thousand English miles, discharges itself into the Caspian sea. It is the largest and deepest river in Russia, producing all kinds of fish, and fertilising all the lands on each side with the richest trees, fruits, and vegetables.

In all this long course, there is not a single cataract to interrupt the navigation; but, the nearer it approaches to its mouth, multiplies its quantity of isles, as it divides into a greater number of arms than any known river in the world: all these arms divide themselves into others still less, so that the Wolga discharges itself into the Caspian sea by more than seventy mouths. By means of this noble river, the city of Moscow preserves a communication not only with all the southern parts of Russia, but even with Persia, Georgia, Tartary, and other countries bordering on the Caspian sea. The Don, formerly called the Tanais, has its source in the middle of Russia, runs in a south-east direction, and divides the most eastern part of Russia from Asia: in its course towards the east it comes so near the Wolga, that the late czar had undertaken to have a communication between them by means of a canal; but this grand project was defeated by the irruptions of the Tartars. This river discharges itself into the Palus Mæotis, or Sea of Azoph, about four hundred miles from its rise. The Dnieper, formerly the Boristhenes, originates in the province of Moscow, runs through Lithuania, the country of the Zaporog Cossacs, and that of the Nagaisch Tartars, and falls into the Euxine, or Black sea, at Kinbourn, near Oczakow. It is one

of the largest rivers in Europe, and has thirteen cataracts within a small distance. The Oby, formed by the junction of the Tobal and the Irtyis, runs northward into the Frozen ocean, opposite to Nova Zembla, and is the boundary between Europe and Asia. The Manga sea runs parallel to the Oby, and discharges itself into the same sea. The Dwina has its rise in Wologda, runs a northerly course, and falls into the White sea below Archangel. The Lower Dwina has its origin in the province of Moscow, runs through Poland, dividing it from Livonia, and falls into the Baltic below Riga.

Some of the lakes of this territory exceed one hundred and twenty miles in length. The Ladoga, and Onega, on the borders of Finland, are the largest in Europe. The other principal lakes are Brela-ozera, which gives its name to a province; Iwanosero-Cargapol, whence another province derives its name; and Honent, in the neighbourhood of the Great Novogorod.

The forests are extensive and numerous in this vast country, and the northern and the north-eastern provinces are in a manner desert. The only oaks which Muscovy produces are said to grow along the banks of the Wolga.

QUADRUPEDS, BIRDS, FISHES, INSECTS.

MOST of the animals in the northern part of Russia, are such as are to be found in Norway and Lapland. In the more southern provinces, the Muscovites breed black cattle, small but hardy horses, sheep, goats, and camels. The breed of cattle and horses has been enlarged by the care, and under the protection of Peter. The lynx, famous for its piercing eye, is a native of
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this empire: it makes prey of every creature it can master, and is said to be produced chiefly in the fir-tree forests. The furs of the black foxes and ermine are more valuable in Russia than in any other country. The dromedary and camel were formerly almost the only beasts of burden known in many parts of Russia.

There are few if any birds in Russia, which are not to be seen in other northern countries. The same may be said of fishes, except that the Russians are better provided than their neighbours with sturgeon, cod, salmon, and beluga. The flesh of the latter is white and delicious; and of the roe of the sturgeon and the beluga, the Russians makes the famous caviar, so much esteemed for its richness and flavour, that it is deemed an acceptable present for princes. The exterior parts and provinces of Muscovy are well supplied with sea-fish from the Northern ocean, the Baltic, or Gulph of Finland, the White sea, the Black sea, and the Caspian; but the whole empire is plentifully supplied with fresh-water fish from the numerous lakes and rivers.

Myriads of insects are hatched by the summer's heat in the sands, morasses, and forests, with which this empire abounds, and are so troublesome and pernicious as to render great part of the country wholly uninhabitable.

INHABITANTS, MANNERS, CUSTOMS.

THE number of inhabitants is estimated at twenty-four millions; a thin population of such immense tract of territory.

The Russians, properly so called, are in general a personable people, healthy and robust, patient of cold and hunger, inured to hardship, and capable of bearing the most sudden transition from the extremes

extremes of hot and cold weather. It is common to see a Russian, who is over-heated and sweating at every pore, strip himself naked, and plunge into a river. A Russian will subsist for many days upon a little oatmeal and water, and even raw roots; An onion is considered as a regale; but their common food on a journey is a kind of rye bread, cut into small square pieces, and dried a second time in the oven. When they are hungry, they soak these in water, and eat them as a comfortable repast.

The complexions of the Russians differ but little from those of the English; but the women have no objection to the use of a little rouge as an addition to their beauty. They are indeed remarkably fair, comely, finely formed, obedient to their tyrannical husbands, and patient under discipline.

On the wedding-day it is customary for the bride to present the bridegroom with a whip, manufactured by herself, in token of submission; and this he fails not to employ as the instrument of his authority. Their nuptial ceremonies are peculiar to themselves, and very little delicacy is used in match-making, which is the work of the parents. Perhaps the bridegroom never sees the woman till he is united to her for life. The marriage being proposed and agreed to, the lady is examined, stark-naked, by a certain number of females, who are to correct if possible, any defects they find in her person. On her wedding-day she is crowned with a garland of wormwood, denoting the bitterness that frequently attends the married state: and, after the priest has tied the nuptial knot, his clerk or sexton throws a handful of hops upon her head, wishing her to prove as fruitful as the plant which produced them. She is then muffled up, and led home by
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a certain number of old women, the parish-priest carrying the cross before ; while one of his subalterns, cloathed in a rough goat-skin, prays, as he goes along, that she may bear as many children as there are hairs on his garment. The new-married couple, being seated at table, are presented with bread and salt ; and a chorus of boys and girls sing the epithalamium, which is remarkably obscene.

After this ceremony, the bride and bridegroom are conducted to their own chamber by an old woman, who exhorts the wife to obey her husband, and retires. The bridegroom then desires the lady to pull off one of his buskins, acquainting her that in one of them is contained a whip, and in the other a jewel, or a purse of money. She takes her choice : and, if she finds the purse, interprets it into a good omen : if, on the contrary, she discovers the whip, she considers it an unhappy presage, and instantly receives a lash, as a specimen of what she has to expect. Having remained two hours together, they are interrupted by a deputation of old women, when some indecent ceremonies succeed ; after which the young lady ties up her hair, which before consummation hung loose upon her shoulders, and visits the mother, of whom she demands the marriage-portion.

He who marries a second wife, the first being living, is not admitted farther than the church-door : and if he takes a third, he is excommunicated. Hence it appears that, though bigamy is tolerated, it is reckoned infamous.

The discipline of the whip took its origin, many centuries ago, among the Scythian Sarmates. These people, wandering in search of a better settlement, left their wives under the protection of their slaves, and made an irruption into Greece, part of which they subdued : but they were so long detained by

by these conquests, that the women despairing of their return, married the slaves, who were strong enough to oppose their masters, when they at last returned from Greece. Both sides were drawn up in order of battle, when one of the Sarmatians, addressing himself to his associates, observed, that they should debase themselves by using the sword and spear against slaves whom they had formerly over-awed with the sound of a whip. He therefore proposed that every man should arm himself with that weapon only: the advice was approved, and they attacked the enemy with scourges. Accustomed to dread this instrument, the slaves were instantly seized with a panic, and fled with the utmost precipitation. In memory of this event, and as a warning to Muscovite wives, the whip is the first wedding present, which is hung up in the most conspicuous part of the house; that by presenting itself continually to the view of the good woman, it may never slip from her remembrance.

Such is the slavery in which the Russians of both sexes are kept by their parents, their patrons, and the emperor, that they are not permitted to dispute any match that may be provided for them by these directors, however odious or disagreeable it may be. Officers of the first rank in the army, both natives and foreigners, have had wives imposed on them by the sovereign in this arbitrary manner. A general, lately deceased, who was a native of Great-Britain, having being urged by the present empress to wed one of her ladies, excused himself from a very disagreeable marriage, by pretending a debility of constitution.

The Russians entertain many fantastic notions with regard to the state of departed souls. After the dead body is dressed, a priest is hired to pray for his soul, to purify it with incense, and to
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sprinkle it with holy water, during its continuance above ground, which, among the superior class of people, is generally about eight or ten days. When the body is carried to the grave, which is done with many gesticulations of sorrow, the priest produces a ticket, signed by the bishop and another clergyman, as a passport to heaven for the deceased. When this is put into the coffin, between the fingers of the corpse, the company return to the house of the deceased, where they drown their sorrow in intoxication, which lasts, among the better sort, forty days, with a few intervals. During that time, a priest every day repeats prayers over the grave of the deceased; for though the Russians disbelieve the doctrine of purgatory, they suppose their departed friend may be assisted by prayer, in his long journey to the place of his destination after this life.

The Russian officers and soldiers always possessed a large share of passive valour; but, in the war with the king of Prussia, they proved as active as any troops in Europe; and, in the late war with the Turks, they greatly distinguished themselves. That war, through the mediation of the court of London, was finally concluded in 1792. The Russian soldiers are implicitly submissive to discipline, be it ever so severe, and can content themselves with very hard fare.

Drunkenness is very prevalent here among all ranks, nor are even priests or ladies ashamed of it on holidays.

GOVERNMENTS, LAWS, ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

THE sovereign is absolute and despotic in the fullest extent of those terms, and master of the

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lives and property of all his subjects. He can, for the most trifling offence, or even for no offence at all, order one of the first nobility, or any other person, to be seized and sent to Siberia, or be slavishly employed upon the public works. He can also cause all his goods to be confiscated, whenever his resentment or caprice is to be satisfied. He was stiled the czar, perhaps a corruption of Cæsar; and before that the grand duke of Muscovy. Peter the Great was the first who assumed the title of emperor of Russia; a title immediately acknowledged by all cotemporary sovereigns. The secret court of chancery, which is a tribunal composed of a few ministers chosen by the sovereign, has the lives and fortunes of every family at their service.

The courts of justice here were in general very corrupt, and the judges very ignorant: but the empress has lately fixed a certain salary to those who administer justice, which before depended on the contributions of the unhappy clients: and consequently the poor had but little chance of obtaining a just decision.

Few crimes are capital in Russia: murder may be atoned for by paying a sum of money. The civil magistrate does not even take cognizance of murder, without having previously received information at the suit of some individual. No man can be convicted of a capital crime, except upon his own confession; but the means employed to extort that confession, are such as human nature can hardly resist.

Traitors, after experiencing the severest tortures, are sometimes sent to Siberia without either eyes or ears; and often left to perish on the road. A coiner is sentenced to swallow the melted metal of the coin which he has counterfeited. The punishment

nishment for robbery, theft, and other common crimes, is scourging.

The orders of knighthood are as follow : that of St. Andrew was instituted by Peter the Great, in 1698, to animate his nobles and officers in the wars against the Turks. He chose St. Andrew for his patron, because by tradition he was the founder of Christianity in the country. The knights are people of the first rank in the empire; and the badge of the order is the image of St. Andrew on the cross enamelled on an imperial eagle. On days of ceremony it is worn pendant to a collar of gold, the eagle ducally crowned, and over both heads an imperial crown : in the right claw a sceptre, in the left a mound, and upon the breast a shield charged with St. George slaying the dragon.

The order of St. Alexander Newski was also instituted by Peter the Great, and confirmed by the empress Catharine I. in 1725.

The same Peter instituted the order of St. Catharine, in honour of his empress, for her assistance on the banks of the Pruth.

The order of St. George was instituted by the present empress Catharine II. in favour of the military officers in her service.

The order of St. Wlodomar was also instituted by Catharine II. on the 3d of October, 1782, in favour of those who serve her in a civil capacity.

REVENUES, FORCES, LANGUAGES, RELIGION.

THE revenue of Russia, is continually fluctuating according to the increase of commerce, or the pleasure of the sovereign, who has all the wealth of the empire at his disposal. The em-

peror, or at present the empress, monopolizes all the best furs, the mines, minerals, and trade by land to the East-Indies : she farms out all the tobacco, wine, brandy, beer, mead, and other liquors ; the inns, taverns, public-houses, baths, and sweating-houses. The customs upon merchandise, the imposts upon corn, and toll exacted from cities, towns, and villages, are very considerable. She possesses demesnes to a very great amount : she inherits the effects of all those who die intestate, or under accusation of capital crimes : she derives a duty from all law-suits ; and, to sum up the whole, can command the fortunes of all her subjects. Her court is elegant and magnificent ; and the encouragement she gives to learning, the improvement of the arts, and useful discoveries, cost her vast sums exclusive of her ordinary expences of state.

The standing army of Russia is computed at two hundred and fifty thousand men : besides these the empress can assemble a body of forty thousand irregulars, Calmucks, Cossacks, and other Tartars, who live under her dominion ; and, on any emergency, that number can be doubled. The present state of the Russian navy, according to a late list, is thirty-six men of war of the line, twenty-five frigates, one hundred and one gallies, ten proams from fifty to twenty-four guns, two bombs, seven pinks, &c. Fifteen thousand sailors are kept in constant pay and service, either on board ships, or in the dock-yards. The harbour is at Cronstadt, seven leagues from Petersburg, defended on one side by a fort of four bastions, and on the other by a battery of one hundred pieces of cannon.

The common language of Russia is a dialect of the old Slavonic, mixed with barbarisms from the Polish and other languages. The most learned of the clergy make use of what is called modern Greek

Greek; and those who know that language in its purity, are not at a loss to understand it in its corrupted state. The Russians have thirty-six letters, the forms of which have a strong resemblance to the old Greek alphabet.

The Russians were converted to the Christian religion towards the latter end of the tenth century, by a bishop and some ecclesiastics sent with a grand embassy by Basilus, emperor of Constantinople, to Woldomar, duke of Russia. Since that period, they have confessed the articles of the Greek church, mingled with certain superstitious ceremonies of their own. They do not believe in transubstantiation, purgatory, or the pope's infallibility or supremacy: they use auricular confession, communicate in both kinds, adopt the Athanasian creed, and adhere to the established liturgy of St. Basil. They worship the Virgin Mary, and other saints, and pay their adorations to crosses and reliques. They observe four great fasts in the year, during which time they taste neither fish, flesh, nor any animal production. The Russians, at all times, reject as impure horse-flesh, elk, veal, hare, rabbit, ass's-milk, mare's-milk, Venice treacle, and every thing that contains the smallest quantity of musk, civet, and castor. They celebrate fifteen grand festivals in the year. The priests use exorcisms at the administration of baptism. They plunge the child three times over head and ears in water, and give it the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in one species, till it has attained the age of seven years; after which the child is indulged with it in both kinds. They also administer the sacrament to dying persons, together with extreme unction; and, should it be neglected, the body is not allowed Christian burial. Immediately after the death of a person, the body is deposited in a coffin, with a slice of bread, a pair of shoes, some
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few pieces of money, a certificate signed by the parish priest, directed to St. Nicholas, who is one of their great patrons. They also hold St. Andrew in great veneration, and pretend they were converted by him to Christianity. But, next to St. Nicholas, they adore St. Anthony of Padua, who is supposed to have sailed upon a mill-stone through the Mediterranean and Atlantic; and over the Lakes Ladoga and Onega, as far as Novogorod.

Every house is furnished with an image of St. Nicholas, carved in the rudest and most fantastic manner: and, when it becomes rotten, or worm-eaten, the owner throws it into a river, with a few pieces of coin, saying, "Adieu, brother," or returns it to the maker, who accommodates him with a new St. Nicholas for a proper consideration. The good women have a St. Nicholas in private, whom they adorn with rich cloaths and jewels; but, on any emergency, these are resumed, and the saint left as naked as he came from the hands of the carpenter.

The churches in Russia are full of pictures of saints, whom they consider as mediators. They oblige their bishops, but not their priests, to celibacy. Peter the Great declared himself the head of the church, and preserved the subordinations of metropolitans, archbishops, and bishops.

The conquered provinces retain the exercise of their own religion; but such is the extent of the Russian empire, that many of its subjects are Mahometans and Pagans.

Liberty of conscience was formerly denied here, and every convicted heretic committed to the flames; but, since the reign of Peter, all religions and sects are tolerated throughout the empire. Roman catholics, Lutherans, Calvinists, Arminians, Jews, and Mahometants, enjoy the free exercise of their respective forms of worship. But
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it was not without great difficulty, and the earnest solicitation of different powers, that the Romish religion was allowed.

COMMERCE.

THE annual exports of Russia are supposed to amount to four millions of rubles; and her imports do not exceed three millions. The productions and exports of Russia are many and valuable, viz. furs and peltry of various kinds, iron, copper, pitch and tar, hemp and flax, sail-cloth, red leather, linen and thread, wax, honey, tallow, feathers, train-oil, hogs'-bristles, isinglass, linseed-oil, pot-ash, soap, musk, rhubarb, timber, and raw silk from China and Persia.

Russia has much extended her commerce since her conquests from Sweden, and particularly from Livonia and Ingria; and since her establishing the new emporium of Petersburg, which has rendered her naval intercourse with Europe shorter and much easier. The Ukraine may be called the granary of the empire; the best corn, honey, wax, hemp, and flax come from this fertile province: and ten thousand head of horned cattle are annually sent from its pastures into Silesia and Saxony.

This country carries on a commerce over land, by caravans to China, chiefly in furs; and is furnished in return with tea, silk, cotton, gold, &c. To Bocharia, near the river Oxus, in Tartary, Russia sends her own merchandise, to exchange for Indian silks, curled lamb-skins, and ready money. She also trades to Persia, by Astracan, crossing the Caspian sea, for raw and wrought silk. In 1784, the empress issued an edict, permitting all foreigners to carry on a free trade, by
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sea and land, with the several countries bordering on the Euxine, which have been lately annexed to the empire. The same privileges, religious and civil, are allowed in the ports of Cherson, Sebastopolis, and Theodosia, in the province of Taurica, as in Petersburg.

Before the time of Peter the Great, Archangel was the only port of naval communication which Russia had with the rest of Europe; and it was subject to a long and tempestuous voyage. Russia has now thirteen; and, though the trade of Archangel has been greatly injured by the building of Petersburg, it still exports a considerable quantity of merchandise. Their masts and timber for the dock-yards, come principally from the forests of Kasan, which border on the province of Astrachan.

DIVISION.

RUSSIA is divided into Muscovy Proper, or Western Muscovy; Eastern Muscovy; Muscovite Tartary; and Muscovite Lapland.

MUSCOVY PROPER, OR WESTERN MUSCOVY,

IS comprehended in the twenty-two following provinces, viz. Pleskow or Pskow, Great Novogorod, Veleki, Twere, Rzeva or Reschow, Biela or Bielski, Smolensko, Severia, Czernichow, Vorotin, Rezan, Bielgorod, Mordoa, Nisi-Novogorod, Woldomar, Sufdal, Moscow, Rosto, Yeroslawla, Bilejesora or Belozero, Vologda, Cargapol, and Dwina. The principal cities and towns in these provinces are

PLESKOW, the largest and most populous in the province of the same name, situated at the mouth of the river Mulda. It is a metropolitan see, and consists of four quarters, or divisions, each of which is surrounded with its own wall, and the whole secured by a strong castle, seated on a high rock almost inaccessible.

The other towns in this province, which are in any degree entitled to notice, are Abdova, Petzar, Ostrovo, Fieburg, Voronecks, and Postarzova.

NOVOGOROD-WELIKI, or GREAT NOVOGOROD, the capital of the province of Veleki, a large, populous, celebrated city seated on the banks of the Wolohawa, near its reception into the Ilmen lake. The houses are meanly built of wood and timber, and the walls are composed of the same materials. From the ruins which are seen without the walls, it is evident that the place was once more magnificent and extensive than it is at present. Novogorod was the famous staple of the Hanse-towns till 1494, and grew extremely powerful. But this city sustained many rude shocks from the arms of the Poles, Russians, and other nations. Its ancient splendor is, however, much diminished, though it is still the see of an archbishop, and has a good share of trade. The cathedral, called St. Sophia, is a handsome, spacious, Gothic edifice: the castle, or citadel, on the other side of the river, has a communication with the city by a long bridge; over which many thousands of the citizens, including a great number of the ecclesiastics, were precipitated into the Wolohawa, by command of the tyrant Iwan Basilowitz, on the bare suspicion of an intended revolt. Two thousand seven hundred and

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PLESKOW,

seventy persons lost their lives in this manner, besides a great number of poor wretches who were trodden down or cut in pieces by the cavalry, let loose upon them for that purpose. The tyrant pillaged all the churches, and the archbishop's palace. The waivode at present resides in the castle; at a little distance from which stands the archiepiscopal palace, and a monastery dedicated to St. Anthony of Pudua. Here is another convent, said to have been built on the ruins of an ancient temple dedicated to Perun, the god of fire, anciently worshipped in this place under the figure of a deity, wielding a thunder-storm. It is one hundred miles south of Petersburg, and two hundred north-west of Moscow.

STARAIÁ, or OLD RUSSIA, a small town on the lake Ilmen. It was formerly a large city, and the residence of Rurik, prince of Russia; but, when the canal of Ladoga was made, it gradually fell to decay.

TWERE, the capital of the duchy of the same name, standing on both sides of the Wolga, at the influx of the river Twerza. It is pleasantly situated on a rising ground, about seventy-five miles north-west of Moscow, and is large, rich, and populous. It is the see of an archbishop, and contains about sixty churches, with several convents.

TERSACK, or TORSACK, a considerable town, surrounded with walls.

RZEVA VOLODEMERKSKI, a town situated in the duchy of Rzeva, or Reschow, on the Wolga, at a small distance from the lake Wolga, which is one of the sources of the river. The houses
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are mean, but the place is well peopled, and has some trade in hemp, flax, and fish. It stands about fifty-four miles west of Moscow.

BIELA, a town situated in a principality of the same name, on the river Oksa, at some distance from its fall into the Dwina. It was once a considerable town, but is now far otherwise.

SMOLENSKO, the capital of the province of Smolensko, agreeably seated on the banks of the Dnieper, near the confines of Lithuania. It is a large, populous, well-fortified city, containing about eight thousand houses; many of which are handsome. Smolensko is the see of a bishop, well secured with a strong citadel and a numerous garrison.

NOVOGRODECK, or NOVOGOROD SIWERSKI, a town in the duchy of Severia, situated on the river Doniza. It is well fortified after the Russian manner.

CZERNICHOW, a small inconsiderable town, though much superior to any other in the duchy of the same name.

VOROTIN, a small town on the Occa, in the principality of Vorotin, well defended by a castle, and other fortifications. On the same river stands the towns of Bolgoff, Aarol, and Crom, which are the strongest and most considerable in this territory, next to Vorotin: but neither of them have any thing that can excite attention.

REZAN, or RHEZAN, the ancient capital of a duchy of the same name, formerly an extensive and populous city, advantageously situated on the

Occa. It made a noble resistance against the Tartars in 1570, by which means the whole empire was preserved from ruin; though they at length destroyed the city, and ravaged the whole province. The archiepiscopal see is all that now remains of the grandeur of the ancient Rezan.

WORONETZ, or WORONITZ, frequently called *Veronis*, situated on a river of the same name, which passes into the Don. It was here that Peter the Great caused a squadron of ships of war to be built, and hence they were conveyed by the Don into the Black Sea. The town stands on a hill surrounded with a wooden wall. Without the walls extensive rope-walks are seen. The declivity of the hill, and the side of the river, are adorned with magnificent houses, belonging to the Russian admirals, and persons of distinction. The greater part of these face the citadel, which is joined to the town by a large bridge of communication. This town, which is about two hundred miles south of Moscow, is embellished with several handsome churches, and contains about ten thousand inhabitants. The citadel is a large quadrangular fort, flanked with four towers instead of bastions, surrounded by a vast fosse and strong pallisadoes, and defended by a numerous garrison. It contains large and numerous apartments for the use of the officers, with several warehouses, in which are contained great quantities of naval stores. This is indeed the principal magazine for this part of Russia, in which about one hundred and fifty pieces of cannon are kept unmounted, for the more speedy carriage.

BIEL-

BIELGOROD, the capital of the province of Bielgorod, seated on the river Donez. It was built in 990, by the great duke Wladimir. It is divided into the Old and New Towns, and has three suburbs. The Old Town is surrounded with a rampart and moat, and the New Town with pallisadoes. Bielgorod is the see of an archbishop.

NISI-NOVOGOROD, a large city, standing on a rock, in the duchy of the same name, at the confluence of the Wolga and Occa, surrounded by a stone wall, and defended by a strong citadel. It was built in 1222, by the great duke Jurii, or George, and was the residence of many petty Russian princes, as well as their place of interment. Here are two cathedrals, twenty-eight parish churches, most of which are built with stone, and five convents. This town is the see of an archbishop, and its trade is so considerable, that the shops make a very handsome appearance, being richly furnished with a variety of goods. Without the stately gate called Ivanoffsky, near the river, a spacious bazar, or market, presents itself, through which there is a passage to the town. The principal cathedral is a stately edifice. Near that cathedral stands the archiepiscopal palace, a magnificent stone-building, including a church and spire within its walls. The chancery, the governor's palace, and many other structures, are large and commodious, though generally composed of wood. The city itself is small, but the suburbs are large and populous.

The towers which flank the city walls, the high hill adorned with various structures, the river enriched and decorated with numberless vessels, unite in forming a most delightful prospect.
Provision

Provision is remarkably plenty in this town. The inhabitants of this place avail themselves of this plenty, eating and drinking to a beastly excess. On holidays, both men and women are seen carousing at tables in the public streets, and numbers of them lying in a state of intoxication in every quarter. The conflux of the Wolga and the Occa, at this place, form a body of water three quarters of a mile in breadth. Though this town is situated but thirty-five miles west of Moscow, the course by water extends an hundred miles.

WOLODIMER, by some called WOLODOMIR, the capital of the province of Wolodimer seated on a rising ground, seventy-five miles north-east of Moscow. The nature of its situation, with its white churches, lofty spires, and the course of the river Clesma-recca, which winds along the foot of the hill, afford a very noble prospect: but, within the town, there is nothing answerable to this external magnificence. It was built by prince Wolodimer, early in the tenth century; and continued to be the residence of his successors till the court was removed to Moscow. Since that period the grandeur of Wolodimer has been gradually on the decline. But it is still populous and considerable.

SUSDAL, the capital of the duchy of Susdal, seated on the river Clesma, sixty miles north-east of Moscow. It was formerly the metropolis of Russia and still the see of an archbishop. The town is chiefly built of wood, in the Russia manner, and retains very little of its former magnificence, except a stately monastery of nuns, and some few ancient edifices.

MOS-

MOSCOW, or MosKA, situated in a duchy of the same name, the ancient capital of Russia, and residence of the czars, is the largest city of the Russian empire, situated in a spacious plain on the banks of the river Muscova, or Moska; over which the prince of Grasischin built a stately bridge of twelve arches, of prodigious height, breadth, and solidity; the river being accustomed to overflow its banks: It was designed by a Polish monk, and is the only stone bridge in Russia. Moscow is said to have been founded in 1156; and it appears to have been a city in 1175. It is nearly circular, formed by the winding of the river, and the compass of the curve is about twenty-four English miles. The number of churches in this city is computed at sixteen hundred; among which are eleven cathedrals, and two hundred and seventy-one parish churches. The rest either belong to convents, or may be considered as private chapels. Many of the churches have gilt steeples, and are magnificently decorated within. The number of public edifices and squares amounts to forty-three.

Moscow is seated in a wholesome gravelly soil, and divided into four quarters or circles, each surrounded with a distinct wall. These districts are known by the names of Cataigorod, Czarogorod, Skorodum, and Strelitzeslaboda. The Cataigorod, surrounded with a brick wall, is the centre of the city; in which stands the citadel, about two miles in circuit, fortified with a triple wall, flanked with towers and a fosse. It contains two imperial palaces. Without the citadel gate stands the church of Jerusalem, finished by the czar John Basilides, who ordered the eyes of the architect to be put out, that he might never build or behold its equal.

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In the great market, fronting the citadel, the famous bell is displayed, supposed to be the largest in the world, weighing three hundred and thirty-six thousand pounds. The height of it is nineteen feet, the diameter twenty-three, and the circumference seventy: the thickness of the sides is twenty-four inches. One hundred men were employed in moving this monstrous machine, which is only rung on extraordinary occasions. In the cathedral called Sobor, which has no less than nine towers or cupolas, covered with copper double gilt, are deposited in silver shrines the remains of three archbishops, Peter, Philip, and Jonas; and in a golden box a robe is preserved which was brought from Persia, said to be the identical garment worn by our Saviour.

The Czaragorod, or Ducal City, encompasses the Cataigorod, and is itself fortified with a white stone wall. The only remarkable building in this division is the great arsenal. The Skorodum quarter is chiefly inhabited by timber-merchants and carpenters, who sell wooden houses ready made. The habitations of the common people are mean wooden huts; but the merchants secure their commodities in vaults of stone or brick, which are a proof against the accidents of fire. The city of Moscow contains about four thousand stone or brick houses, but they are so scattered and intermingled with rows of wooden houses, or environed with high walls, that the effect of them is almost lost in the general prospect. The streets, instead of being paved with stones, are boarded with fir-planks; it therefore frequently happens that, in general conflagrations, the ground seems to burn, and it becomes dangerous to approach the scene of distress.

Among the churches of this city that in the Krimelin, or palace of the citadel, is a very ancient

ancient and remarkable structure. On the right-hand side of the altar stands the czar's throne, and on the left that of the patriarch. The body of the church is illuminated with a silver chandelier of immense weight and value. The jewels and ornaments belonging to an image of the Virgin Mary are said to be worth half a ton weight in gold: but inestimable is the infinite number of chalices, pixes, patens, statues, and other church utensils of gold and silver, curiously wrought and enriched with precious stones, and an astonishing quantity of rich priestly vestments. The treasure contained in this church is supposed to be equal to that of any cathedral in Europe. Near the church of St. Michael stands the stately abbey of nuns called Tzudoff-monaster, where the bodies of the princesses of the blood are interred; and in a separate chapel we behold the tombs of those who never ascended the throne. Nothing can exceed the magnificence of the palls with which their coffins are covered on holidays. Peter the great founded at Moscow three colleges: in the first humanity, rhetoric, and philosophy were taught; in the second mathematics; and in the third navigation and astronomy. To these colleges he added a dispensatory, which is one of the noblest structures in Moscow. The foundling hospital at Moscow is an excellent institution. It was founded by the present empress, and is supported by voluntary contributions, legacies, and other charitable endowments. The ancient splendor and opulence of Moscow was greatly diminished by the building of Petersburg; still, however, it is very populous, but authors differ widely with respect to its population. Busching says it contains one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants, and Voltaire estimates the number at five hundred thousand: the latter computation is

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supposed to be the most rational. The canal between Moscow and Petersburg is one of the most stupendous works of the czar Peter: it begins at the Nieva, and is continued from lake to lake, and river to river till it reaches Moscow; a course of about three hundred miles. Moscow stands about six hundred and sixty miles east of Stockholm, nine hundred and fifty north-east of Constantinople, seven hundred and twenty east of Cracow, and thirteen hundred and twenty from London.

TREYTZA, or **TROITZ**, a small elegant town, in the duchy of Moscow, about forty miles north of Moscow, famous for a stately monument, dedicated to the Trinity, the largest and the best endowed in Russia. It is inclosed with strong walls, ramparts, and moats, and garrisoned by a company of soldiers. Here is an imperial palace, to which the czar Peter retired from the fury of the boyar Convasci, who at the head of the Strelitzes, plundered or murdered all those in the metropolis who opposed his ambitious and treasonable project, in concert with the czar's sister, the princess Sophia.

ROSTOW, a large town and Metropolitan see, in the duchy of Rostow, seated on the lake of the same name, from whence issues the small river Colris, or Colorei, which passes into the Wolga. This city, which is about one hundred and twenty miles north of Moscow, contains some elegant stone churches, among which is a very stately cathedral.

UGLITZ, a town in the same duchy, seated on the Wolga, about one hundred and twenty miles north of Moscow, famous for its excellent bread; but

but more particularly so for the murder of the young prince Demetrius, son of the czar Iwan Basilowitz. He was slain by order of his brother-in-law Frederowitz Godanow, in the midst of a tumult occasioned by a conflagration raised for that purpose. The murderer usurped the throne, and was succeeded by his son of the same name, who proved an intolerable tyrant. He oppressed the nobility in such a manner, that they countenanced an impostor who pretended to be the prince Demetrius, and was solemnly crowned in 1605: but the imposition was soon after discovered, and the pretender put to death.

JAROSLAW, the capital of the duchy of the same name, a large populous city, strongly fortified, and having a considerable trade in cattle, corn, leather, and honey. It is seated on the Wolga, about thirty-six miles north of Rostow.

BELOZERO, or BILEJEZORA, the capital of the duchy of Belozero, a large, populous, fortified town, particularly secured by a strong castle, which is surrounded by the water of the lake, and pronounced impregnable.

WOLOGDA, the capital of the duchy of the same name, seated on the river of the same name, which passes through it. The city is large, populous, and opulent, having many commercial people among its inhabitants. It is the pass through which all commodities must be conveyed to and from Archangel; and a great number of magazines and stores are kept here by the merchants of England, Holland, and other nations. Wologda is surrounded by a strong wall of stone, and defended by so strong a fortress, that, in times of danger, the empress sends hither her most va-

luable effects, considering it as a place of safety. The houses are well built, the streets broad and regular, and the bazars or markets well supplied with every kind of merchandize. The river, which is broad and navigable, greatly promotes the commerce of the city. Wologda stands about two hundred and twenty miles north of Moscow, and is one of the most ancient archiepiscopal sees in Russia.

CARGAPOL, the only town worth noticing in a province of the same name, seated on the western bank of the Onega, about sixty miles east of the great lake of that name.

ARCHANGEL, or ST. MICHAEL THE ARCH-ANGEL, the capital of the province of Dwina, situated on the east side of the Dwina, about six leagues from where that river is received by the White sea. This city, which is about three English miles in length, and one in breadth, is rich, populous, and well built. It is a metropolitan see, standing between the sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth degrees of north latitude. Archangel derived its importance originally from the English, by whom it was discovered in 1553. Richard Chancellor, master of one of the ships fitted out under the command of Sir Hugh Willoughby, who had received a commission to go in search of the north-east passage to China, was separated from the rest of the fleet, and obliged to put into the bay of St. Nicholas, on the White Sea. The czar Iwan Basilowitz, hearing of his arrival, invited him to court, where he was hospitably entertained; and the czar granted the English a free trade in his dominions. Encouraged by this indulgence, a company of merchants were incorporated in London; and, having further privileges conferred on them by the czar, a commerce was engaged

engaged in to the mutual advantage of both nations. Before this period the Russian commodities were usually conveyed to Narva in the gulph of Finland; but the channel of trade was soon turned to Archangel, and the English enjoyed this commercial intercourse, for some time, without competition. At length, however, the Dutch and other nations gradually insinuated themselves into this commerce; which they carried on to a great disadvantage, not having those privileges which the czar had granted to the English company.

But these immunities were lost in the time of the great rebellion. Hearing the English nation had brought their sovereign to the scaffold, the czar was so exasperated against them, that he instantly deprived them of those privileges, by which they had been so favourably distinguished from other nations. From that moment the English company, notwithstanding its utmost efforts, were only permitted to trade at Archangel on the footing of other European countries. The customs arising to the czar from this city, were computed at two hundred thousand rubles a year, and the number of foreign ships at four hundred annually; but, after the ports of Petersburg and Riga were opened, a considerable part of the trade was removed to the Baltic, and the commerce of Archangel is much declined.

The houses in this town are chiefly of wood; but every chamber is provided with a stove, as a defence against the cold, which is here excessive in the winter: but, notwithstanding the severity of the weather, here is always plenty of good butcher's meat, poultry, wild fowl, and fish.

SOTTOTITZA, or **SOTTOWITZOGDA**, a large city on the southern confines of the same province, having, among its inhabitants, a great many merchants

chants and curious mechanics. Near it is a territory of considerable extent, called Wollostufgy, inhabited by a civilized people, who speak a language peculiar to themselves, profess the doctrines of the Greek church, and are supposed to have come originally from Livonia.

E A S T E R N M U S C O V Y.

THE provinces which constitute the eastern division are Mezen, Ingora, Candora, Teesca, Petzora, the country of the Vogulisi, Permia, Oustiong, Zirania, and Viatka. The principal cities and towns in these provinces, are

MEZEN, the capital of the province of Mezen, though a place of so little importance as hardly to merit a description.

INGORA, the principal town in the province of the same name, situated on a bay of the same name on the northern coast, between the isle of Kandenofs and the gulph of Petzerskaia. The other places are too wretched to be mentioned.

GORODISCHE, a small town in the province of Teesca, situated on a small river, which falls into the gulph of Teesca, about ten leagues below.

PETZORA, the capital of a large province of the same name, situated on the river Petzora: the city is but a small place, and is supposed to have been formerly called *Puste Oforo*, from some golden mines or sand, which fell from the Obyan mountains into that river. The cold is so excessive here, that the rivers are frozen about eight months in the

the year. They begin to thaw in May, and to freeze in August.

SOLIKAMSKOI, the capital of the province of Permia, said to be a large and opulent city, inhabited by several wealthy merchants, who deal principally in salt. The province of Permia is supposed to be about twelve hundred miles from Moscow.

OUSTIONGH, or **OUSTIOUGH**, the principal town in the territory of the same name, seated on the western banks of the Suchana, which receives the Jugh a little below it. This place is a metropolitan see, and was formerly thought so strong, that, in times of danger, the czars sent thither their most valuable effects. This city is still considerable, extending about a league, in the form of a crescent. The principal building is the archiepiscopal palace; it is large, but gloomy. Here are twelve churches built of stone, and two of wood: the houses in general are of timber. It is surrounded with stone walls, and stands about two hundred and twenty miles south-east of Archangel. It is famous for its annual fair for fox-skins, and other peltry.

VIATKA, the capital of the province of Viatka, situated on the Kama. It is the see of a bishop, and has a strong castle, built by the czar Basilowitz, to check the incursions of the Tartars. Nothing else remarkable can be mentioned of this place, except that there are two roads leading from hence to Moscow; one of which, though shorter, is much more dangerous than the other, because it runs through vast morasses, and is infested by the Schiremissé freebooters.

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MUSCOVIAN TARTARY.

THIS country, as we have already observed, was gradually conquered by the czars, but principally by Peter the Great. It comprehends Cazan, Bulgaria, Baskiria, Astracan, Siberia, and Samoieda. Of which the following are the principal cities and towns :

CAZAN, or CASAN, the principal town of the kingdom of Cazan, situated on the Cazanka, in the midst of a spacious and fruitful plain, in the latitude of fifty-six degrees fifty-four minutes. The river Cazanka falls into the Wolga about four English miles from this place. The city is large and populous, and is the seat of a Russian metropolitan. It contains a strong fort, built with stone, the wooden town, as it is called, with several adjoining suburbs ; one of which is inhabited by Tartars. The garrison of the city consists of two regiments, for the service of which a very good hospital is provided. Here are about fifty churches, almost all of which are of stone, and eleven convents.

The nunnery of the Virgin Mary, in this city, boasts of a miraculous image of the blessed Virgin. In the convent of Silandowa a school is established for instructing the children of the different Tartarean nations in the Russian and Latin languages, the principles of the Christian religion, and the elements of philosophy ; in order to qualify them as preachers for the conversion of the people to which they belong. At the confluence of the Cazanka and the Wolga, a very commodious dock furnishes every convenience for building, shipping, and other vessels, to carry on the
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commerce of the Wolga and Caspian sea. Cazan is well supplied, by land and water, with great plenty of necessaries and provisions, which are sold extremely cheap. Wine and fruits are brought hither from Turkey: Moscow supplies the inhabitants with grocery, and European commodities: Furs and iron-work they receive from Siberia and Tartary; and tea is imported by the annual caravans which arrive from China. This city is so admirably situated for the commerce of the southern parts of this empire, that it is reckoned the third great magazine in Russia for every kind of merchandize. Here are several manufactures of Russia leather, large quantities of which are sent annually to Petersburg.

A great number of Tartars live in the neighbourhood of Cazan, which is a pleasant fruitful country. They are neat and cleanly in their persons, and supply the markets with horses, sheep, and all other kinds of cattle, which produce a great abundance of tallow. They take as many wives as they can maintain, and give horses in exchange for them: sometimes six or seven horses are given for a wife.

BULGAR, or BULGARIA, the capital of the kingdom of Bulgaria, seated on the Wolga, said to be a very considerable city.

SAMARA, a city on the river of the same name, in Bulgaria, east of the Wolga, into which it falls. It is built on the declivity of a mountain, and the suburb extend along the banks of the river. It is a large place, but the houses have a wretched appearance, being like the walls and fortifications, built entirely of timber. This town is said to have been raised within a month, by thirty thousand men sent here in the reign of

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the czar Peter. The work was directed by prince Galischin; and the place was found essentially useful, not only in repressing the incursions of the Tartars and Cossacks, but also in affording magazines to supply the army in that province with provisions and all kinds of necessaries.

ASTRACAN, the metropolis of the kingdom of the same name, situated on an island formed by the Wolga, which in the Russian language is called *Dolgoi*. This city derives its name from Hadgee Tarken, a Tartar, by whom it was founded. It was taken by Iwan Basilowitz, recovered by the Tartars in 1668, and afterwards taken by the czar, who employed for this purpose a great number of flat-bottomed vessels; in which he transported his forces down the Wolga from Cazan. The city of Astracan is about three miles in circumference, surrounded by a brick wall; but, if we comprehend the suburbs, the circuit will be near five miles. The number of inhabitants, including Armenians and Tartars, as well as a few Persians and Indians, amounts to seventy thousand. A garrison of three thousand men is always kept in this city. The houses are built of wood, and are both mean and inconvenient. The higher parts of the city command a prospect of the Wolga, which is here three miles in breadth, and exhibits a noble appearance. The earth, being impregnated with salt, is remarkably fertile, producing abundance of fruit; the immoderate use of which is attended with epidemical distempers.

Among the Russian churches in this city, the cathedral is the most elegant, as well as the most modern. The Lutherans and Armenians have also a church here. In the environs of Astracan, vast numbers of orchards, gardens, and vineyards

yards are displayed, producing all sorts of herbs and roots, except cauliflowers; with apples, pears, cherries, grapes, and excellent water-melons. The grapes are thought so delicious, that they are preserved in sand, and conveyed to court by land-carriage, at an immense expence; yet the wine of Astracan is far from being excellent. A small island, called Bosmaïsse, lies about ten miles below Astracan, on which are built large store-houses for the salt which is made about twelve miles to the east; and, being carried thither in boats, is conveyed up the Wolga, in order to supply the country as far as Moscow and Twere. The quantity of salt annually dug for these purposes, amounts to some millions of pounds sterling; the exclusive property of which is claimed by the crown, and yields a considerable revenue; for the soldiers, and great numbers of the inferior people, live principally on bread and salt.

From the end of July, to the beginning of October, the country about Astracan is frequently infested with myriads of locusts, which darken the air in their progression from the north to the south; and, wherever they fall, consume the whole verdure of the earth. It is remarkable that these insects can live a considerable time under water; for when the wind blows across the Wolga, vast numbers of them fall in clusters; and, when taken out, their wings are no sooner dry, then they rise and take flight again. The commerce of Astracan is still considerable, though not so great as it has been. The Astracan merchants export to Persia, chiefly on account of the Armenians, red leather, linen, woollen cloth, and other European manufactures; and import, in return, the commodities of Persia; such as silk sashes, intermixed with gold, for the use of

the Poles, wrought filk, stuffs, mixed with cotton, rice, cotton, rhubarb, &c. but the chief commodity is raw-filk.

SARATOW, or SARATOF, the second town, with respect to importance, in the province of Astracan, seated on a branch of the Wolga; from whence the suburbs extend themselves along the side of the river. It has always a strong garrison to suppress the incursions of the Kalmuck Tartars, a savage rapacious race, whose territory extends to the neighbourhood of this city. The environs of Saratow are very fertile; and, at one of the gates, a highway begins which leads entirely to Moscow. The town contains several wooden churches: but the houses are in general mean and inconvenient. This city has suffered greatly from conflagrations; but the greatest misfortune is its being subject to the incursions of the Tartars, whom the Muscovites have driven from this province towards the shore of the Caspian sea, and the river Jaick.

These are principally out-laws, or vassals who have deserted from their masters. Their fortunes being desperate, they commence robbers and pirates, and usually herd in gangs of thirty or forty. They procure row-boats which will hold about twenty or thirty men, provided with fire-arms, and, boarding vessels on the Wolga, massacre the passengers, and plunder their effects. Detachments of soldiers are often sent in pursuit of these ruffians, who are certain of being severely punished if they are taken. A gibbet is erected on a float and furnished with hooks, according to the number of malefactors, who are stripped and fastened to them alive by the ribs: the float is then launched into the stream; and the inhabitants on the banks are forbid, on pain of death,

to give them any sustenance or relief. They sometimes live four or five days in this situation, howling and blaspheming in a delirium produced by the pain: and often imploring a draught of water with the most piteous lamentation.

CYARITZA, or CÆSARIA, a strong town or fortress on the west side of the Wolga, with a strong garrison. In the neighbourhood of this fortress may be seen the canal between the rivers Laola and Camishinka, by means of which the czar Peter proposed to open a communication between the Don and the Wolga.

The remaining provinces of Russia are usually termed Asiatic Muscovy, though great part of them are within the limits of Europe. They lie contiguous to the countries we have described, and belong to the same sovereign, we shall therefore proceed to give an account of them, as provinces belonging to the Russian empire. They are known by the names of Siberia, Samoieda, Russian Tartary, Russian Lapland, and Nova Zembla. Among these the first object of our attention is

S I B E R I A.

THE kingdom of Siberia is of vast extent, being eighteen degrees from north to south, beginning at the fiftieth, and reaching to the sixty-eighth degree of northern latitude. On the west, it is separated from Russia by the great chain of mountains reaching from Caucasus to the northern ocean, or Frozen sea, which is its boundary on the north: to the east and south it is terminated by the Japanic ocean, and part of Great Tartary. The whole length of Siberia, from east to west,

west, is three thousand two hundred miles : its provinces reaching even to the river Aroun, which is within a few days journey of the famous wall of China : but the breadth, from north to south, does not exceed sixteen hundred miles.

This country is thinly inhabited by people of the Tartarean race, scattered in various tribes, and distinguished by different appellations ; but that of Siberia, given it since it was conquered by the Russians, is derived from a Sclavonic word, signifying a prison, so called because it is the place of exile for those who incur the displeasure of the Russian emperors. State-prisoners are banished hither, either for their lives, or for a certain term of years, according to the nature of their offences, or the caprice of their sovereign. Some of them are indulged with a small allowance for their subsistence ; others obtain food by any means they can ; but all of them are obliged to bring in a weekly tribute of furs to the empress, or suffer severe chastisement from their task-masters. Thus circumstanced, they are often obliged to lie in the open fields, amidst all the rigours of the severest winter ; and they are under the necessity of acquiring dexterity in shooting the wild beasts in the head with a single ball ; for, should the furs be pierced with shot-holes, or stained with blood, the delinquent will be punished with great cruelty.

This country is wild, desolate, and intensely cold, but Providence seems the more liberally to have dealt out to its inhabitants fuel, and furs which they make use of to preserve them from the severity of the weather : even ice is here converted into a defence against the cold ; for, in the northern part, it is usual to hew a piece of transparent ice, of the size of the hole which serves the peasants for a window : and, having placed it on
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the outside, they sprinkle a little water at the edges, which immediately freezes, and cements the ice in the hole. This ice-window keeps out the wind and cold, without much diminishing the light. Dreary as the scene appears, when the country is roughened with huge mountains and impenetrable forests, and abounds with frozen lakes, fens, and morasses; yet even amidst these desolate wastes, some beautiful plantations have been made, by the art and industry of the unhappy exiles, banished to this remote and inhospitable corner of the earth.

Siberia was discovered and conquered by the Russians, in the reign of Iwan Basilowitz. A notorious robber, named Temeforewitz, obtained his pardon by the intercession of one Straginaff, on condition that he should reduce Siberia to the czar's subjection. He therefore assembled his companions, the banditti with whom he had associated, and, being supplied with arms, boats, and other necessaries, by Straginaff, set out upon this expedition. Having passed many rivers and performed fatiguing marches through a cold and desert country, he arrived at the fortress of Tumaen, situated on the river Toru, about the forty-fifth degree of latitude. He made himself master of this confine, and proceeded up the river as far as the city of Tobolski, which he also reduced. The adventurer being afterwards accidentally drowned, the czar sent thither a strong army, which completed the conquest of the whole country. From that period, Siberia has been tributary to the Russians and governed by a waywode, or vice-roy.

TOBOLSK, or TOBOLSKI, the capital is seated at the confluence of the Tobol and Irtisk in the latitude of fifty-eight. It stands on the ascent
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of a hill, the lower part of which is inhabited by Mahometan Tartars, who carry on a great traffic up the river Irtisk, and convey their goods over Great Tartary, as far as China. The river Irtisk is supposed to be as rapid as the Danube, taking its course from the south into the Oby. The Tobol washes the other side of the town, and, a little below it falls into the Irtisk. These two rivers occasion a constant flow of merchandize into this city, during the summer season. It is therefore a great mart for the commodities of Muscovy, Tartary, and other countries. All sorts of provisions are therefore plentiful and cheap. The supreme court of judicature for all Siberia is held at Tobolski, which is likewise the seat of a metropolitan, sent hither from Moscow, to exercise spiritual jurisdiction over the whole kingdom.

This city is well fortified, and defended by a strong garrison, under the command of the waywode, who resides here, and takes charge of the fur tribute, which is deposited in proper magazines. This governor has an extensive command, and can occasionally bring into the field nine thousand men, besides a strong body of Tartars on horseback, to repress the Kalmucks and Cossacks, in their repeated incursions. This town is very populous, and almost a fourth part of its inhabitants are Tartars, who are partly descended from those that were settled there before the conquest of Siberia, and partly from the Bucharians. The rest of the inhabitants are Russians, whose ancestors were banished hither, or such as are exiled themselves. Several of the Swedish officers, who were taken prisoners at the battle of Pultowa, and sent to Tobolski, set up schools here in 1713, for teaching the children of the Swedes, Russians, Cossacks, Tartars, &c. the German,

German, Latin, and French languages, with geography, geometry, and drawing; but, when the peace of Neustadt was concluded, the Swedish officers returned to their native country, and these beneficial seminaries of learning dropped of course. A German school has been since established here under the auspices of the Russian empress. All the Chinese caravans are obliged to pass through this city.

JAPANZIN, a town on the river Tora, forty-five leagues north-west of Tieumen, built towards the close of the seventeenth century, as a stage or halting place for travellers. Here the empress maintains a numerous garrison, under the command of a governor, who sends corn and other provisions to those garrisons and fortresses that are situated in desert uncultivated places.

The inhabitants of the adjacent territory are very wretched and miserable. They know little of agriculture, but procure subsistence by hunting fables, ermines, black foxes, beavers, and hyænas. The ermines of this district are esteemed the best in all Siberia. The hyæna is a fierce rapacious animal that will lurk among the boughs of a tree, and dart itself occasionally at a hart, elk, or rein-deer; on the back of which it will fasten itself by its claws and teeth, and there continue till the animal drops down, either with the loss of blood, the fatigue of running, or both. The beavers are celebrated for their sagacity and ingenuity in cutting timber, and building habitations of different stories.

NARIM, a large populous town, situated on the Oby, secured by a fortress, and defended by a strong garrison of Cossacks. This place is about
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one hundred and ten leagues east of Tobolski. The woods in this district afford plenty of furs; but the country is cold, barren, and thinly inhabited by the Ostiaks, a brutal, indolent, and ignorant people. They worship deformed wooden idols of very rude workmanship, and cloath themselves in the skins of sturgeon, with which the river Oby abounds. They live in wretched huts, which are partly under ground; but they have no towns or villages of any consequence.

Besides the places we have described, there are several other towns and fortresses, built on the confines and rivers of this kingdom.

JENISCEA, a large, strong, populous town on the river of that name. It contains three churches, a monastery, a nunnery, an exchange for merchants, a powder magazine, a magazine for provisions, and about seven hundred houses; it is well supplied with flesh, fish, and corn; but these productions must be imported from other countries; the climate being so intensely cold, that hardly any thing can be brought to maturity. The common fruit-trees bear nothing but leaves, nor does it appear that any thing is produced spontaneously in this country, except gooseberries and strawberries. The commodious situation of this town, occasions a brisk trade especially in summer.

The smaller places are Demianski, Samoroskoijam, Zergolt, Pohem, Tiumen, Tara, Surgut, and Tomskoi.

Siberia was originally peopled from Tartary, but its present inhabitants are composed of three different nations, the Russians, the native Siberians, and colonies of Tartars.

The Tongoufi, or proper inhabitants of Siberia, are divided into four tribes: the Podkamena
Tongoufi,

Tongoufi, who live between the rivers Jenifcea and Lena. In the winter, they are clad in the skins of rein-deer, with the fur outwards; the breeches, shoes, and stockings, being all composed of one piece. They wear a cap of another kind of fur, fashioned according to the fancy of the wearer. They subsist on fish in summer, and on game in winter.

Persons of superior rank are distinguished by a number of black spots, with which they stain the skin of their hands and faces, by way of ornament. The dead are hung upon trees till the flesh rots off, and afterwards the skeletons are buried. Part of the country inhabited by the Oleuni Tongoufi is under the dominion of the Chinese; but all the rest belongs to Russia, and the natives are obliged to send an annual tribute of furs to the grand magazine of Siberia. Their chief weapon in war is the hatchet, but they have of late imported a kind of cutlafs from their neighbours of Muscovy: these are worn by both sexes, who are equally trained to the exercise of arms.

Both men and women are courageous, active, and dexterous; but they are naturally pacific, and the different tribes live amicably with one another. They dwell in huts that are moveable, and can occasionally change their situation, either for pleasure or convenience. In summer they travel on the lakes and rivers in canoes; and in winter on sledges drawn by dogs or reindeer. Polygamy is admitted among them to the most unbounded extent, and the husband is so absolute that he can sell or exchange his wives at pleasure.

This country lies in general uncultivated. Not a stalk of corn is to be seen; for, instead of bread, the natives feed upon onions boiled into a kind of pap or pudding, with a meal made of the roots

of yellow lilies, dried and pounded. Vast quantities of fish are caught in their lakes and rivers. The best iron in Muscovy is produced from the mines and forges of Siberia; but the great revenue of this country arises from the article of furs, which amounts to an immense sum.

The great caravan between Moscow and China, passing through this province, the merchants barter their furs for the merchandise of the latter; such as tea, silks, and a kind of stuff made of linen and cotton, much worn by the Russian women. The empress derives a great advantage from the possession of Siberia, in a constant supply of recruits for her army; the large and numerous garrisons of this country being considered as nurseries for the most hardy and intrepid soldiers of the Muscovite empire. By a treaty of peace between the emperor of China and the czar, concluded in 1691, the river Argun was agreed to be the boundary between the two empires. The Argun runs into the Saghadian river, and accompanies it till their joint contents are poured into the sea of Kamtzechatka.

S A M O I E D A.

THE province of Samoieda, which is situated north of Siberia, extends from Archangel to the Asiatic Tartary. It is bounded on the west by the Petsora river, and the Uporcean mountains; and on the east by the Argun, which, as we have observed, is the boundary between Russia and China. It is divided into the districts of Obdora, Manamo, and Leppa. The first extends along the west side of the Oby, and the other two are situated on the east side of that river. The inhabitants are distinguished into several different tribes;

tribes; such as the Beresofskoi, the Guitorfes, the Truchamskoi, and Mangazeiskoi; exclusive of those who inhabit the banks of the Dwina. Each of these tribes has a particular dialect: but the manners and customs of the whole country are extremely similar.

The principal rivers of Samoieda are, the Petfora issuing from the lake Petzercoe, and falling into the North sea, between Cape Caudenois and the straits of Weigatz; the great river Oby, formed by many confluent streams, steering its course through a vast tract of country, and falling into the straits of Weigatz: the Janiska, Janiscea, or Kemm; the Olentes, and the Lena, two considerable rivers which discharge themselves into the Northern ocean. The whole country abounds in lakes and mountains, with forests of pine and fir-trees: the soil is barren and uncultivated, not having warmth sufficient either for the vegetation of corn, or culinary plants: the climate is indeed so intensely cold, that winter may be said to reign here in all its terrors.

The inhabitants of this dreary waste are denominated *Samoiedes*, which is a Russian epithet, signifying *Man-eaters*: a term unjustly applied to these poor miserable savages. They resemble the Laplanders in their lowness of stature, their broad flat faces, large heads, and little eyes: their complexion is of a dark, greasy, olive hue; the features of both sexes are coarse, and their limbs ill-shaped. Their hair is black, thick, and woolly: that of the women is plaited on each side of the face, and ornamented with brass trinkets. Both sexes wear a fur cap, the inside of which is white, and the outside black. They are covered from head to foot with deer-skins, having the hair outwards in summer, and inwards in winter; but

of yellow lilies, dried and pounded. Vast quantities of fish are caught in their lakes and rivers. The best iron in Muscovy is produced from the mines and forges of Siberia; but the great revenue of this country arises from the article of furs, which amounts to an immense sum.

The great caravan between Moscow and China, passing through this province, the merchants barter their furs for the merchandise of the latter; such as tea, silks, and a kind of stuff made of linen and cotton, much worn by the Russian women. The empress derives a great advantage from the possession of Siberia, in a constant supply of recruits for her army; the large and numerous garrisons of this country being considered as nurseries for the most hardy and intrepid soldiers of the Muscovite empire. By a treaty of peace between the emperor of China and the czar, concluded in 1691, the river Argun was agreed to be the boundary between the two empires. The Argun runs into the Saghadian river, and accompanies it till their joint contents are poured into the sea of Kamtzechatka.

S A M O I E D A.

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but their principal finery consists in slips of red, yellow, and blue cloth sewed upon these garments.

The men wear breeches and stockings of one piece: the women have short fur petticoats extending half-way down the leg, covered with a kind of buskin of the same skin. In winter both men and women use long skais, with which they glide over the ice and snow with astonishing ease and expedition. Hardened by the severity of the climate, they are strong, active, and so laborious, that, in spite of the intense cold, they work themselves into a profuse perspiration. These wretched savages feed upon raw flesh, guts, and even stinking carrion, and are filthy in the extreme. No town or village appears in this desolate territory: tents or caverns are their only habitations. In summer they wander from place to place in search of fresh pasture for their rein-deer, or game for themselves, which they kill with arrows. They are said to be excellent archers, being trained up to the exercise of the bow from their infancy. They resemble the Laplanders in their persons, manners, and modes of living; but are, if possible, more ignorant and brutal. During the summer which continues about three months, they lodge in tents made of the skins of the beasts they kill, which being generally green, stink abominably. When the winter approaches, they retire to their holes or caverns, dug under the surface of the earth, and covered with a conical roof of boughs or fish-bones, and lined with the skins of rein-deer. In this miserable mansion, the Samoiedes shut themselves up for the winter, amidst the stench of their provisions, and the smoke of their fuel; having only a hole at the top to serve as a kind of chimney. When they
require

require to see more distinctly, they light a lamp fed with fish-oil, which diffuses a most abominable odour.

Horrible as such an existence must seem to the civilized nations of Europe, yet, such is the infatuation of these poor creatures that they suppose their country to be the earthly paradise, and their climate the most agreeable in the universe. Two of their deputies who were sent to the court of Moscow, in the time of Peter the Great, declared to that prince, that, if he knew the charms of that country, he would certainly fix his residence in Samoieda. They beheld the magnificence of the Russian court with surprise and admiration; but they preferred their own mode of living to all the luxury of the court, and longed impatiently to revisit their own stinking habitations.

A man who is disposed to marry, purchases the bride of her parents: three or four rein-deer are supposed to be a valuable consideration for the finest lady in Samoieda. Such of the inhabitants of this country as are, from age, become useless to the community, are released from the miseries of life by being drowned, or otherwise dispatched; their bones being preserved as reliques.

Since this territory has belonged to the Russians, they have built several towns in it, namely, Loppa, which may be said to be the capital, Nazenskoi, Olschaygorod, and Tumeen. Governors and magistrates have been appointed, and fairs instituted, calculated to furnish the natives with some of the conveniencies of life; still, however the Samoiedes may be classed among the most savage tribes that exist among the human race.

RUSSIAN LAPLAND.

RUSSIAN Lapland is bounded on the north by the Frozen ocean, on the east and south by the White sea and the river Zolotieza, and on the west by Danish Lapland. It comprehends three districts: Leporia Mounemauskoi, or Maritime Leporia, situated on the south-east of Danish Lapland: Teriskoi, or Inland Leporia; and Bellamoureskoi Leporia. This whole country resembles that of Swedish Lapland, which we shall particularly describe. It is indeed inhabited by the same people, from whom they differ only in the rites of the Greek church, which is professed by the Christians of Russian Lapland.

The more easily to govern, civilise, and fleece these people, the Russians have built towns in their country, and sent thither governors, priests, and collectors, who administer justice, propagate Christianity according to the rites of the Greek communion, and gather the annual tribute of furs. But these towns are nothing more than Muscovitish colonies, who trade with savages, as well as with the merchants of different nations who visit the coast. Mounemauskoi Leporia has but few towns, except Kola, which is esteemed the metropolis of the whole country, standing in latitude 68. 55. between Wardwyfs and the White sea. This town, however, is small, and its situation is at the mouth of the river of the same name, which falls into the Muscovian ocean. Teriskoi Leporia, or the eastern part of Russian Lapland, is almost surrounded with the ocean, forming indeed the gulph of the White sea. The principal towns in this division are Wartiga and Lackena: the former situated on the south coast,

opposite to Archangel ; the latter is a sea port, at the mouth of the river Lackena, which falls into the Northern ocean. Bellamoureskoi Leporia lies on the White sea, and is as cold, mountainous, and barren, as the other parts of Lapland. The chief town is Soma, situated on the frontiers of Muscovitish Carelia, and may be termed the key of Russian Lapland on the White Sea. There are other small towns in Russian Lapland ; such as Kiermi, near the mouth of the river Zololuza ; Zoloski, seated on an island of the same name, on which there is a monastery ; Kerelli, standing at the mouth of another river : Kemeloc, situated on an island surrounded with smaller isles ; Kovoda, seated at the mouth of a river which issues from the lake Paggerfwi, and falls into the gulph Ombai ; Wolnaostrof, standing on an island of the same name ; Jackna, on a river of the same name, abounding with salmon. The other places are too inconsiderable to be mentioned.

The coast of Muscovitish Lapland is famous for capes, bays, and islands : among these are Cape Tauria, Sousnaubizt, or the Island of the Cross, with three other isles at the mouth of the river Ponoï ; Cape Orlogone, with a bay and harbour, at the entrance into the White sea ; the isles of Lambacho ; the cape, isles, and bay of Sweetenoes ; Nookostrof, called by the Dutch, Nagel Eglan, or Nail Island ; the Mariner's Bay ; the Golden Bay ; Daelna Olgia ; or Farther Olgia ; Daelna Silensi, or Farther Silensi ; Port Gabriel ; Port of Waronia ; Bliesna Olgia ; or Nearer Olgia ; Bliesna Silensi, or Nearer Silensi ; the island and lake of Kola ; and the Fisherman's Island.

NOVA ZEMBLA.

NOVA ZEMBLA, in the Russian language, signifies New Land. It is separated from Samoiëda by the straight of Weigatz, lying in the seventieth degree of latitude. Whether Nova Zembla, is an island, or joined to the continent of Greenland on the west, or to that of Tartary on the east, has not yet been ascertained. This country was discovered in 1553, by captain Hugh Willoughby, an English mariner, who was obliged to put into a port of Lapland; where he and his whole crew perished with cold. About three years after this unfortunate expedition, captain Burroughs, also an Englishman, doubled the North Cape, and discovered the straights of Weigatz; which have since been visited by ships of different nations, in order to discover a north-east passage though these straights to China. Towards the latter end of the sixteenth century, some Dutch seamen wintered in Nova Zembla, and found the cold so intense, that it was with great difficulty they could keep themselves alive. From the 4th of January to the 24th of June, the sun totally disappeared, and they had no light but from the moon, which from the first to the last quarter, shone without intermission.

It is impossible to conceive any thing more desolate or forlorn than the face of this country, which is generally covered with ice and snow: the parts from which the snow melts in summer, are dreary quagmires coated with moss, producing nothing but a few blue and yellow flowers. The shore is almost one continued rock of ice, or rather huge mountains of ice piled to a prodigious height,

height, one above another; and huge floating fragments continually dashing against their base, which the sea has undermined in many places, forming hideous chasms and caverns, causing dreadful disruptions, and leaving vast masses of rugged ice, which seem pendant in the air, and threaten instantaneous ruin. Sailing into the straits of Weigatz, these icy mountains, known by the name of Pater Nosters, seem to be close on every side, and bar all farther progress; whence the straits acquired the name of Weigatz, or impassable. Severe as this climate is, a very verdant island appears at the mouth of these straits, covered with fur and junipers, and abounding with penguin, a species of water-fowl.

Nova Zembla produces such other birds and animals as can subsist in the coldest climates. Here are large white bears, which are rendered so fierce and ravenous by famine, that they have been known to plunge into the sea and attack ships, in great numbers. Foxes, ermines, and little creatures resembling rabbits, are found here: even larks have been perceived in this inhospitable country.

This territory is thinly inhabited by a race of savages, more brutal and deformed than the Samoiedes: they are shorter, thicker, and uglier, than their northern neighbours. They waddle like ducks, and have squeaking voices. The men have little or no hair on their heads, but their beards are strong and bushy: the women have long hair, falling down in plaits on their shoulders. The females adorn their ears and noses with pendants of blue stone; but their complexion and features are horrible and disgusting. These creatures are so extremely ignorant and stupid that they seem hardly to have a title to humanity. The garb of the fishermen, who go to

sea in their canoes, differs from that which is worn by the inhabitants on shore. The landmen and women wear the same kind of habits, which are straight waistcoats and breeches, made of the skins of penguins unpicked: they have also a kind of hose formed of seal-skin, with a conical cap or bonnet. The male carries an ax on his shoulder, a bow in his hand, and a quiver with arrows slung at his back. The female wields a dart in her hand, having her chin and forehead painted with blue streaks, and her ears and nose loaded with jewels of blue stones and fish-bone.

The fisherman's dress is composed wholly of seal-skin, the tails of which hang dangling between his legs. His canoe is made of fish, curiously joined, and covered with skins sewed together.

These people have a great aversion to spirits and tobacco; articles so highly acceptable to the Laplanders and Samoièdes. Their food is the beasts they kill in hunting, and the fish they catch along the shore; their common drink is the simple element, but train-oil is nectar to them. Without any regular system of religion, they worship the sun, moon, and stars; together with certain wooden idols in human shape, rudely formed by the work of their own hands. The wooden work of their bows and darts are clumsy and awkward; but their arrows are well feathered, and neatly armed with fish-bone; of which they also make their needles and other instruments.

Inhospitable as this country may appear, the Russian empress may derive great advantages from it; not only in the articles of furs which are always valuable in proportion to the coldness of the climate in which they are produced, but likewise in the fishery of the sea-horse, the teeth of which are preferable to ivory.

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S W E D E N.

SITUATION, EXTENT.

SWEDEN, in Latin called *Suecia*, is of very uncertain etymology : it includes the greatest part of Scandinavia, and extends from fifty-five degrees and twenty minutes, to sixty-nine degrees and thirty minutes northern latitude, lying between the twelfth and thirty-second degrees of longitude east from London. It is bounded on the north by Danish Lapland; on the east by Muscovy; on the west by the mountains of Norway; and on the south by the Baltic, the Sound, and the Categate. The extent of this kingdom doubles that of France; but as a considerable part of it consists of seas, lakes, mountains, hills, woods, heaths, and marshes, the number of inhabitants bears a very small proportion to its dimensions.

CLIMATE, SOIL.

THE climate is healthy, but the winter's cold is intense, and the summer's heat excessive. The sun, at the highest, continues above the horizon of Stockholm eighteen hours and an half, and pro-

produces an uninterrupted day of several weeks: in winter the day light is proportionably defective; but this defect is tolerably well supplied by the moon, the stars, and the northern lights, reflected from the snow, through the medium of a serene sky. The want of the sun's heat is rendered tolerable by stoves within doors, and warms fur abroad; instead of which the lower class of people use sheep-skins, and such others as they can procure.

Such is my detestation, says Mr. Wraxall, to these inhospitable and polar countries, that no honours or fortune could tempt me to remain in them: I would rather reside in a cottage beneath a temperate and genial heaven, than in a palace invested so many months with ice and darkness. This sentiment the Swedes laugh at, and assure me that there are pleasures in furs and sledges, and the rigours of winter, of which I have no conception. I am very ready to allow it, and only desire to be excused from experiencing them in my own person. *Wraxall's Tr.* 154.

The winter sets in early and abruptly, without any intervention of mild weather analogous to our autumn; and the summer seems to burst at once from the embraces of winter, without being gradually disengaged by the interposition of spring. The productions of the earth vegetate and ripen more speedily than in southern climates, from their being warmed by an uninterrupted sun, which is sometimes so hot as to set woods on fire, and produce dreadful conflagrations.

About three o'clock in the morning, says Mr. Wraxall, we arrived at a gentleman's seat, where we proposed making a short stay. I can hardly say we drove by night, since at this season of the year [8 June] *darkness is unknown*, and I could have

have very easily read a good print at midnight.
Wraxall's Tr. 133.

But, such is the severity of the winter's cold, people very often lose their limbs, noses, and even life itself, by neglecting the proper precautions of wearing warm furs and sheep-skins abroad, and of keeping their apartment comfortably warm with stoves, and other contrivances. When the nose or the extremity of any limb begins to be affected by the frost, it exhibits a livid colour, as a symptom of a beginning mortification: in that case, the most speedy and effectual remedy hitherto discovered is to rub the part affected immediately with snow, till the blood returns to it. Violent storms and rains are seldom known here.

Sweden, though very mountainous, affords many tracts of land which are fit for agriculture. The soil is, in general, sandy, swampy, or ferruginous, but does not want fertility. There are very fruitful spots between the hills; and, even where the soil is not more than half a foot from the surface, the ground would yield plenty of corn, if properly cultivated: but agriculture is not much understood in this country, or a sufficient quantity might be produced for the consumption of the inhabitants; yet at present great quantities are imported from Livonia, Pomerania, and Wismar. The inferior people, in imitation of their Norwegian neighbours, are obliged to grind the inner bark of birch-trees, and use it in bread mixed with a small quantity of flour.

In summer the fields are cloathed with verdure, intermingled with a variety of flowers; and the whole face of the country, without even excepting the rocks, is overspread with strawberries, raspberries, currants, &c. growing wild. The kitchen
gar-

gardens here yield plenty of roots and pot-herbs. Apples, pears, plums, and cherries are common here; but apricots, peaches, and nectarines, are not much cultivated in this kingdom.

RIVERS, LAKES, FORESTS, METALS, MINERALS.

THIS kingdom is watered by many navigable rivers, the principal of which are the Motala-trom, which issues from the Watter-lake. The Stang which divides Osgothland, or East Gothland, into two parts: The Gothische-Elbe, or Gothic River, which rises in the Wener-Lake, and falls into the North sea near Gottenburg: the Gullspang, which divides West-Gothland from Warmeland: and the Dahl in the Vale-Country, which is the largest river in Sweden.

The Dahl is thus particularly mentioned by Mr. Wraxall. It rises in Norwegian Lapland, and, after passing through a vast extent of that country, empties itself into the sea about twenty miles from the island of Escar-Eue: it is above half a mile broad between that island and the falls: but at the cataraets, its banks being much narrower, it runs with vast impetuosity. A small island, or rather a rock of half a quarter of a mile in circumference divides the river at this place. In the winter when one of the cataraets is frozen over, the island is accessible, but at this time [June 8] it would be impossible to reach it alive. The eye takes in both falls at once from either bank. The depth of each is about forty feet, but one is abrupt and perpendicular, the other oblique and shelving. As nearly as I can judge by my eye, the breadth is not in less than eighty or ninety yards, and I am inclinable to believe it more. The tremendous

dous roar of these cataracts, which, when close, is superior far to the loudest thunder; the vapour which rises incessantly from them, and even obscures them from the eye in many parts; the agitation of the river below for several hundred yards, before it resumes its former tranquility; and the fides covered with tall firs, which seem like silent and astonished spectators of it; form one of the most picturesque and astonishing scenes to be beheld in nature's volume; nor would I have resigned the pleasure I experienced, as I lay on the loose stones almost immediately beneath it, and was covered with the spray from its dashing billows, for the most voluptuous banquet a sovereign could bestow. *Wraxall's Tr.* 157.

The lakes are of prodigious extent, and incredible depth, supplying swarms of delicious fish. The face of the country is, in a great measure, over-spread by vast forests of pine, fir, beech, alder, birch, juniper, and some oak. These trees grow so close together, and such a number of those that fall are left to rot where they lie, that, in many places, the woods are impassable. The timber is equal to that of Norway, and there is such quantities of it, that fuel is extremely plentiful.

The wealth of Sweden arises principally from its mines and metals. The largest silver mine is near Sala. At Brattfors in Warmeland, pure silver is dug up. There are others at Hallefors, Storhaar, and Skyshytte, in Thal-lande; at Norrefors in east Gothland; at Gisleby in Schonen, and in several parts of Lapland. These mines are not equally rich; and in some of them the future prospect is greater than what they at present yield. The chief copper mine is about eighty fathoms in depth extending a great way under ground, and yielding a prodigious quantity of

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ore. The copper annually produced amounts to about two hundred thousand pounds sterling; of which one fourth, paid in kind, is the king's property; the remainder, if exported unwrought, is charged with an additional duty of twenty-five per centum. Iron ore is in such plenty here, that it generally shews itself on the surface of the earth. It is also remarkable for its richness, especially the Oeregrund iron ore. The number of forges, hammering-mills, and smelting houses in Sweden, is about four hundred and fifty. Lead is also dug up in Sweden in vast quantities.

This country abounds in every species of the three natural kingdoms: especially those of the fossile or mineral kind; as crystals, amethysts, topazes, porphiry, lapis lazuli, agate, cornelian, a reddish stone called violstein, a greenish semipellucid stone, coral, asbestos, load-stone, touch-stone, mill-stones, slate, lime-stones, beautiful petrefactions, with coarse and white marble. Not far from Nordkiöping, in the forest of Koolmole, or Kalmalden, are large and deep quarries of excellent white marble of an extraordinary hardness, with beautiful green veins, which are sometimes of a dark, and sometimes of a bright vivid green, finely intermixed. Here are also to be found vitriol, lac montanum, mercury, amianthus, lead-ore, cobalt, ceruse, alum, petroleum, fuller's-earth, sulphur, mother of pearl, &c. Many pearls of great value have been found in the pearl-fisheries of Sweden. In Smoland and the Legn, salt is boiled from the sea-water, but not in sufficient quantities to supply the country.

GOVERN-

GOVERNMENT, RELIGION, LANGUAGE, LEARNING.

THE government of this kingdom has undergone variety of changes. The Swedes, like the Danes, were originally free; and during the course of many centuries, the crown was elective: but, after various revolutions, Charles XII. became despotic. He was succeeded by his sister, who consented to the abolition of despotism, and restored the states to their former liberties; and they, in return, associated her husband, the landgrave of Hesse-Cassel, with her in the government. A new model of the constitution was then drawn up, by which the royal power was so limited, that the king of Sweden could hardly be called by that name. The diet of the states appointed the great officers of the kingdom; and all employments of any value, whether ecclesiastical, civil, or military, were conferred by the king with the approbation of the senate. The states were formed of deputies from the four orders, nobility, clergy, burghers, and peasants. The representatives of the nobility, which included the gentry, amounted to upwards of one thousand, those of the clergy to two hundred, the burghers to about one hundred and fifty, and the peasants to two hundred and fifty. Each order sat in its own house, and had its own speaker; and each chose a secret committee for the dispatch of business. The states were to be convoked once in three years, in the month of January; and their collective body had greater powers than the parliament of Great Britain, because the king was more restricted in his prerogative.

When the states were not sitting, the affairs of the public were managed by the king and the

senate, which were no other than a committee of the states, but chose in a particular manner. The nobility, or upper-house, appointed twenty-four deputies, the clergy twelve, and the burghers twelve; these chose three persons, who were to be presented to the king, that he might nominate one of the three for each vacancy. The peasants had no vote in electing a senator. Almost the whole of the executive body was lodged in the senate, which consisted of fourteen members, besides the chief governors of the provinces, the president of the chancery, and the grand-marshal. Those senators, during the recess of the states, formed the king's privy-council, but he had no more than a casting vote in their deliberations. Appeals lay to them from different courts of judicature, but each senator was accountable for his conduct to the states. Thus, upon the whole, the government of Sweden might, with some propriety, be called republican, for the king's power was not so great as that of a stadtholder. The senate had even a power of imposing upon the king a sub-committee of their number, who were to attend upon his person, and be a check upon all his proceedings, down to the very management of his family.

Many subordinate courts, boards, commissions, and tribunals, were introduced by the jealousy of the Swedes, into the administration of the civil, military, commercial and other departments. But, in August, 1772, the whole system of the Swedish government was totally changed by Gustavus III. and is now wholly despotic: how long it will continue so it is not in our power to predict; but the revolution in France, and the death of Gustavus, which was perpetrated by an assassin named Ankerstrum, on the 16th of March 1792, will probably stimulate the hardy Swedes to recover that liberty which they have so lately lost.

Speaking

Speaking of this revolution Mr. Wraxall says, on the 19th of August 1772, this extraordinary event was produced, which again restored to the crown those prerogatives she had lost for more than half a century. The king's secrecy, address, and dissimulation, in so dangerous and critical a juncture, far surpassed what might have been expected from his age. It is said only five persons in the kingdom were entrusted with the design, which was carried into execution with as much vigour as it had been planned with sagacity and judgment. *Wraxall's Tr.* 123.

By the new form of government the king is to assemble and discharge the states at his pleasure. He is to have the whole disposal of the army, navy, finances, and all employments civil and military; and, though by this new system the king does not openly claim a power of imposing taxes upon all occasions, yet such as already exist are to be perpetual; and, in case of invasion, or pressing necessity, the king may impose some taxes till the states can be assembled. But of this necessity he is to be the judge, and the meeting of the states depends wholly on his will and pleasure; and, when they are assembled, they are to deliberate on nothing but what the king thinks proper to lay before them. It is easy to discern that a government thus constituted can be little removed from one of the most despotic kind. The Swedish nation is, however, amused with some slight appearances of a legal and limited government. But the king of Sweden, according to the present constitution, is invested with so much authority, power, and influence, it is not to be supposed that any one will venture to make an opposition to whatever he shall propose.

This country was formerly involved in the grossest darkness of Pagan idolatry, and Upsal
was

was the seat of their superstitious worship. The emperor Lewis sent into Sweden, to propagate Christianity, the famous Ansharius, who was succeeded by several others. The Lutheran religion was propagated in this country by Gustavus Vasa, about the year 1523. The Swedes are surprisingly uniform and unremitting in religious matters. The archbishop of Upsal has a revenue of about four hundred pounds a year, and has under him thirteen suffragans, besides superintendants. The clergy, in general, by their morals, and the sanctity of their lives, have brought themselves into the highest estimation with the people. Their churches are neat, and many of them are ornamented. A body of ecclesiastical laws and canons direct their religious œconomy. A conversion to popery, or a long continuance under excommunication, which cannot pass without the king's permission, is punished by imprisonment and exile.

The Swedish language is a dialect of the ancient Gothic or Teutonic, and much resembles that of Denmark. Though learning has not been in high esteem among this warlike people, they have not been wholly without seminaries, even in ancient times. The university of Upsal was instituted near four hundred years ago, and patronized by several successive monarchs, particularly the great Gustavus Adolphus, and his daughter queen Christina. The professors, in different branches of literature, are about twenty-two; but the largest of their salaries does not exceed one hundred and forty pounds per annum. There is another university at Abo in Finland, but it is not so well endowed. There was a third at Lund, in Schonen, which is now in a very declining state. Every diocese is provided with a free-school, in which youth are qualified

fied for the university; as well as with inferior schools where children are taught to read, write, and sing their prayers. An academy of arts and sciences was some years since established at Stockholm, and is now in a flourishing condition.

The Swedish nobility and gentry are, in general, more conversant in polite literature than those of many other more flourishing states. They have lately exhibited some noble specimens of their munificence for the improvement of literature. This noble spirit is eminently encouraged by the royal family. That able civilian, statesman, and historian, Puffendorf, was a native of Sweden. The same country gave birth to the late celebrated Linnæus, who was certainly the best botanist in Europe. Agriculture, both in theory and practice, is now much encouraged in Sweden, and it is supposed by some to be at no distant period when that country will not be under the necessity of importing corn.

MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE.

A FEW centuries ago, Sweden was without manufactories. The Hanse-towns not only exported unwrought iron and copper from this kingdom, but also the ore of those metals, which they sold again to the Swedes when they had formed them into various tools and utensils. The inhabitants of the coasts of Sweden were all fishermen, and the towns had no artificers. In the reign of Gustavus Vasa the Swedes first began to work their metals, or even their wood at home; and towards the middle of the seventeenth century, they first introduced manufactures; but in these they chiefly employed foreigners, particularly

larly Hollanders and Flemings. In 1641, a glass-manufactory was erected here; a starch manufactory in 1643; another of tin in 1646; and one of silk in 1649. Leather-dressing and soap-boiling were introduced in 1651; sawing-mills in 1653; iron and steel manufactures in 1654; and sugar-baking in 1661. But during the wars of Charles XII. manufactures were greatly on the decline. In the reign of Frederic I. mechanic trades and manufactures began again to flourish. The breeding of sheep was also regulated and encouraged; tobacco was planted; foreign artists and manufactures were allowed the free exercise of their religion; and many other regulations were planned and executed.

There are now in Sweden manufactories of silk, cloth, cotton, fustian, and other stuffs: linen, sail-cloth, Morocco-leather, cotton-printing, and dying; also for boiling or refining alum, sugar, soap, and salt; for making glass and porcelain, &c. Here are also paper-mills, gunpowder-mills, fulling-mills, boring-mills, &c. Vast quantities of copper, steel, brass, and iron, are also wrought in Sweden; where there are forges for fire-arms, anchors, &c. The Swedes are not, however, completely skilled in the working of metals.

The Swedish commonalty subsist by agriculture, mining, grazing, hunting, and fishing. Their materials for traffic are masts, beams, deal-boards, and other sorts of timber for shipping: tar, pitch, bark of trees, pot-ash, hides, hemp, flax, wooden utensils, peltry, furs, iron, copper, lead, fish, and cordage. Certain towns in Sweden of which there are twenty-four, are called staple towns, where the merchants are allowed to import and export commodities in their own ships. Those towns which have no foreign commerce, though

lying near the sea, are called land-towns. A third kind are named mine-towns, as belonging to the mine districts. Sweden is very conveniently adapted for commerce, from its situation between the Baltic and the North-sea, exclusive of its several large lakes and rivers, of which some of the latter have a communication with the lakes, and others with the sea. Sweden, in exchange for its own produce, receives cloths from England; sugars, wines, and silks, from France; and spices from the Dutch.

ANIMALS, FISH.

THESE differ little from those in Norway and Denmark. It is, however, remarked of the Swedish horses, that they are superior to the best German cavalry. Fowl, both wild and tame, are very plentiful, except sea-fowl. The most common are orras and kaders, the former of the size of a hen, the other of a turkey. In winter great numbers of small birds are taken, as thrushes, blackbirds, and sydensewans; the last but little larger than a fieldfare, though much more delicate food: they are supposed to come from Lapland: they have their name from their beautiful feathers, some of which are tipped at the point with scarlet. The Swedish hawks, when carried to France, have been known to revisit their native country; as appears from one that was killed a few years ago in the northern part of Finland, which had a small plate of gold on one leg, with this inscription, *Je suis au roi*—I belong to the king; and on the other a plate of silver, with these words, *Le duc de Chevreuse me garde*—I am kept by the duke of Chevreuse.

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Among the quadrupeds of Sweden are, the bear, the wolf, the fox, the wild-cat, the elk, the deer, the hare, and the squirrel: they are hunted for their flesh, or fur, or both. The Swedish hunters generally shoot their prey with guns, and are said to be very excellent marksmen.

The fishes in the rivers and lakes are the same with those taken in other northern countries. They are in great plenty; and the pikes in particular are taken in such quantities, that they are salted and dried for exportation. The Gulph of Finland is frequented by vast numbers of seals, from which the natives extract a considerable quantity of train-oil. The streamling, a fish approaching to the size of a pilchard, is also very plentiful. It is salted in barrels, and distributed all over the country.

STRENGTH, REVENUE, COIN.

SWEDEN has not much to fear from the power of a standing army, which is indeed no other than a well-regulated militia, under the immediate command of frecholders, whose interest is intimately connected with the liberty of their fellow-subjects. The cavalry is raised and maintained by the nobility and gentry in proportion to the value of their estates, under such regulations that neither man nor horse, after having been once in the service, can be otherwise employed than as such regulations direct; and both must be kept, with proper arms and equipage, in continual readiness for service. The infantry is maintained at the expence of the yeomen. Each province is obliged to find its proportion of soldiers, according to the number of farms it contains. Every farm of sixty or seventy pounds per annum, is charged with one foot soldier, who

is subsisted, cloathed with ordinary dress, and paid about twenty shillings a year in money; or the farmer must procure him a little wooden house, allow him hay and pasturage for a cow, and cultivate as much ground for him as will supply him with bread. When embodied, they are subject to military law, but otherwise to the civil law of the country. It may therefore literally be said that every Swedish soldier has a property in the country he defends. This national army is thought to amount to upwards of sixty thousand men; and before the loss of Livonia, would have amounted to seventy thousand.

The officers, both of the horse and infantry, live upon certain lands appropriated by the public for that purpose. Every officer is provided with a neat and convenient house, situated in that part of the country where his regiment is quartered, with a competent portion of ground for his own use, and his pay arises from the rent of neighbouring farms; he therefore receives it punctually in money, corn, or other commodities, and lives in the character of a country gentleman. A colonel of the infantry enjoys, in this manner, an estate of about three hundred pounds per annum; and the inferior officers are accommodated with proportional appointments. The uniform cloathing of the troops is defrayed from the public treasury. Every officer, on his removal or promotion, is obliged to leave his house and farm in as good condition as that in which he found it; and for this purpose he subscribes an inventory, when he takes possession. Every company is exercised once a month, and every regiment reviewed twice or three times in a year: on these occasions only they wear the king's cloaths, which, when the service is over, are carefully deposited in churches. Thus the army is part of the constitution, and

the officers are landholders. Sweden could formerly have fitted out forty ships of the line; but, of late years, their ships and docks seem to have been much neglected. For maimed, infirm, and superannuated soldiers, here is one general hospital, well endowed; the revenue of which is considerably augmented, by a certain gratuity paid by every officer, when he is promoted in the service.

By the wars of Charles XII. and with the Russians since, the revenue of Sweden has been greatly reduced. Livonia, Bremen, Verden, and other places which that kingdom was stripped of, contained about seventy-eight thousand square miles. But the expences of the state have been reduced in the same proportion.

The payments are principally made in copper, which is here the chief medium of commerce. This method is extremely inconvenient; some of those pieces being as large as tiles: a cart or wheel-barrow is therefore often required to carry home a moderate sum. The Swedes, however, have gold ducats, and eight-mark-pieces of silver, valued at about five shillings and two-pence. But these are very scarce, and the inhabitants of Sweden have now very little specie in circulation; large pieces of copper stamped, and small bank-notes being the principal.

Mr. Wraxall is more circumstantial with respect to the coin of Sweden: whatever quantity (says he) of precious metals they have in the metropolis of this kingdom, I have not yet seen one bit, however small, either of gold or silver, in my long journey from Helfinberg to Stockholm: nor have they, I am well assured, any such commodities in the provinces. In lieu of these two articles generally used among us, they have two other species, which supply their place, namely, copper

copper and paper. Their bank-notes are as low as one shilling and six-pence, and they have them of all values, rising gradually from that sum. It is often not a little diverting, when I tender them one of fifty copper dollars, which is adequate to 12s. 6d. English, to see them bring both their hands full of copper coins; nor can they convert it into current money by any other means. This extreme scarcity, or rather this absolute want of gold and silver, is an evil which originated from Charles the XIIth's passion for war. It is well known, that towards the end of his reign he obliged his subjects to give up all the silver of which they were possessed, and in its place he returned them small copper pieces, which he ordered to pass as silver dollars, value nine-pence each, throughout his dominions. Numbers of these coins yet remain, though their imaginary value exists no longer, and they are reduced to their intrinsic worth, which is less than a farthing, three of them constituting a halfpenny; I have collected several, as I cannot but esteem them very curious; and have no doubt that, in another century, they will be purchased by medallists and antiquarians at a great price. *Wraxall's Tr.* 98.

ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

THE Swedish orders of knighthood are those of the North or Polar Star, instituted by Frederic I. in 1748, consisting of thirty-six members, of which twelve are stiled commanders: the badge is a golden star of eight points, enamelled white and edged with gold; on the centre is a circle enamelled blue, on which is a star of five points enamelled white encircled with this motto, *Nescit occasum*. The order of the Sword, instituted in

1525, by Gustavus Vasa, soon after declined; but was revived by Frederic I. as a military order, in 1748: the ensign is a gold cross of eight points, enamelled white, and edged with gold: in the centre is a sword erect, white hilt, and pommel gold, between three ducal coronets gold; between the four points of the cross are four ducal coronets, and towards the ends of the points six swords of gold; over the two in chief is a regal crown of Sweden, the cap enamelled blue. The order of the Seraphim, or of Jesus, which is the chief, was instituted by Magnus II. in 1334. It flourished for a time, and afterwards became dormant, till it was also revived by Frederic I. in 1748. The badge of this order is a star of eight points enamelled white; the centre blue, with the arms of Sweden, and initial letters I. H. S. The order of Vasa was introduced by the late king, in 1772: the ribbon of the order is green and watered, the collar chased and enamelled, composed of four wheat-sheaves, eight shields of the arms of Sweden, and four of the arms of Holstein; the whole joined with small chains of gold. To the centre is pendant a medal of gold, chased and pierced with a garb as in the collar, with a Swedish motto: *Gustaf. Den. tredie instickstare*, 1772, which is the ensign.

This order is intended for men of merit in every station, and is conferred, without the least attention to birth or distinction, on every man who deserves well of his country. *Wraxall's Tr.* 127.

INHABITANTS, MANNERS, CUSTOMS.

SWEDEN, at present, is very thinly inhabited: Mr. Wraxall, in his travels through it,

it, says, in the course of sixty miles, I can safely assure you, I saw not a hundred people, and not ten hamlets : villages there are not any. I have drove from one stage to another, of twelve or fourteen English miles, without meeting or seeing a single person ; though I cast my eye impatiently round, in hopes to discover the countenance of man. In many places the firs on either side the road formed avenues, as noble as those which are often planted in the entrance to palaces, or noblemens' seats ; and through the whole was spread a kind of rude and gloomy magnificence, which, superadded to their silence and loneliness, very strongly affected the mind. Even the birds seem to have abandoned these dreary forests ; I heard or saw none but woodpeckers, and now and then the cuckoo. I enquired if they did not afford refuge to wolves or bears, as such animals are commonly found in countries and places which want population ; but the peasants assured me that the former were only in small numbers, and rarely seen : and as to bears there are not any. This deplorable want of inhabitants is one of the many evils which Charles the XIIth, entailed on his unhappy kingdom. Unchecked by the defeat of Pultowa, by the loss of his richest provinces, and bravest subjects, his rage for war, heightened by personal animosity to the king of Denmark, induced him still to exert new efforts, and make fresh levies of soldiery from his bleeding and exhausted country : and though much more than half a century has now elapsed since his death, Sweden has by no means recovered herself, or re-peopled her uninhabited places.

Wraxall's Tour through the Northern Part of Europe,
86.

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Had I not, says the same traveller, taken the precaution to carry wine and provisions with me in the chaise, I must have been almost starved in three or four days through these miserable provinces, where the peasants are strangers to every kind of aliment, except bread, and salt pork or fish. It is, indeed, a question whether the former of these deserves the name of bread, as it is a compound of rye and oats; among which they mingle, in times of dearth and famine, a kind of flour made of the internal bark of trees rasped: it is of a colour approaching to black, and of a taste which a person must be very hungry to relish. *Wraxall's Tr.* 89.

The inhabitants of Sweden, from the severity of their air, the poverty of their food, and the sterility of their country, are generally strong, hardy, patient of labour and fatigue, and perfectly qualified to perform the duties of a military life. With respect to their mental faculties, they are said to be slow of comprehension, and of slender capacity. They are not much actuated by the spirit of enquiry, and seldom amuse themselves in the regions of speculative philosophy. To this want of curiosity is originally owing that unanimity in religion, productive of such happy consequences to the nation. What the Swedes want in genius, they make up by an uncommon exertion of industry and application. By experience, industry, and travelling, not a few of them have arrived at a mature and solid judgment. Those employed in the administration have, by indefatigable study, acquired a perfect knowledge of the business in which they were engaged. But this seems not to be a national talent, as the natives in general had rather content themselves with superficial acquisition, than pursue their studies to obtain a profundity of knowledge.

Sweden

Sweden has produced many excellent statesmen, and some men of learning; at the head of which class stands the celebrated Puffendorf, and the no less celebrated Linnæus. No country in Europe has been more productive of great generals than Sweden, whether we consider her sovereigns or subjects. Gustavus Ericson, Gustavus Adolphus, Charles Gustavus, and Charles XII. have left immortal monuments of military fame.

The nobility are brave, hospitable, polite, fond of glory, and scrupulously observant of the punctilios of honour; at the same time it must be acknowledged that they are proud, ostentatious, jealous, and vindictive. They never descend to any employments in the church, to the practice of law, or physic, or to the exercise of any branch of commerce; and though, to gain experience in maritime affairs, they submit to the lowest offices abroad, yet at home there is but one example known of a gentleman who condescended to accept of the command of a merchant-ship.

Swedish manners have been circumstantially mentioned by Mr. Wraxall. Through the whole country, says that gentleman, are lakes, and pieces of inland water, on the banks of which their palaces and villas are usually built. My late tour has been entirely from one to another of these houses, and nothing can exceed the generous hospitality I have found every where. It would even be resented if a stranger visited a forge, without paying his compliments to the owner, who expects that mark of his attention and respect. This custom plainly shews how few persons travel in these parts of Europe; if they were numerous, it would be quickly laid aside, or at least restrained within narrower limits. I cannot say as much in praise of the Swedish refinement or elegance, as of their benevolence and civility:

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there is indeed one quality which must precede these among a people; I mean neatness, a virtue which I have ever found in an eminent degree among the inhabitants of warm climates, where nature and necessity oblige them to extreme cleanliness. There is a profusion of dishes at their entertainments, but no taste in the arrangement or disposition of them. The table groans beneath a number of covers, which are all brought in at once, and then left to cool during a ceremonious meal of at least two hours. But the prologue to this play is even worse. Before they sit down to dinner, the company take bread and butter, which they wash down with a glass of brandy; and this horrid fashion prevails not only among persons of condition, but extends even to the ladies as well as the men. I must own I cannot reconcile myself to a custom, which, though, it doubtless originated from the extreme coldness of the climate, is only worthy the Muscovites before the reign of their reformer, Peter. *Wraxall's Tr.* 171.

The clergy are but moderately learned, and not very well acquainted with the controverted points of religion, having no adversaries to oppose. They affect gravity, are remarkable for their hospitality, and are much esteemed among the people.

The common people are quiet and industrious, sober, loyal, and religious; yet furious and ungovernable when intoxicated. They live in great poverty, and rudely practice several mechanical arts, which necessity teaches them to exercise: the peasants make their own shoes, cloaths, tools, and instruments of husbandry: the trading part of the nation plod on in a beaten track, without ingenuity to discover, or spirit to pursue new branches of commerce; notwithstanding all
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the care and encouragement bestowed by the legislature.

The author of the Northern Tour says, the peasants are civil and humble to obsequiousness, grateful for the third part of a halfpenny, and infinitely less uncivilised and barbarous, than one would be tempted to suppose from the appearance of every thing around them. I saw a number of very pretty forms among the women, who used to crowd round the carriage at every post-house; and I must own that I attributed my schellings more in proportion to their beauty, than their age, infirmities, or poverty. *Wraxall's Tr.* 89.

The people in general seem to be religiously inclined, and are constant frequenters of the church; grave even to formality; sober from necessity, rather than the principles of temperance; much inclined to entertain suspicions, and to envy each other as well as strangers; more addicted to pilfering and secret thefts, than to open violences, such as burglaries, or robberies on the highway; crimes as seldom committed here, as in any other country upon earth.

The common method of execution in Sweden is beheading and hanging: for murder, the hand of the criminal is first chopped off, and he is then beheaded and quartered; women, after beheading, instead of being quartered, are burnt. No capital punishment is inflicted till the sentence is confirmed by the king; and every prisoner is at liberty to petition the king, within a month after his trial. Malefactors are never put to death except for very atrocious crimes, as treason, murder, double adultery, house-breaking, robbery on the highway, or repeated thefts. Other offences, many of which are capital in other countries, are chiefly punished by whipping, condemnation to live upon bread and water, imprisonment, and hard labour, either for life, or for a

stated time according to the turpitude of the crime. Till the reign of the late king of Sweden, criminals were tortured to extort confession from them: but in 1773, his Swedish majesty Gustavus III, abolished this absurd and cruel practice.

To put an effectual stop to duelling, the laws of Sweden make it death for the survivor who has killed his antagonist, and a note of infamy is published against the memory of both. If neither of them are killed, they are both committed to prison for two years, and fed on bread and water; to which is added a fine of one thousand crowns; at the end of one year they may be liberated on the payment of two thousand crowns. Reparation of honour, in case of affront, is referred to the respective national court, where recantation, and public begging of pardon, is usually inflicted.

Estates, whether acquired or inherited, descend to the children in equal portions, of which a son has two, and a daughter one: nor is it in the power of parents to alter this distribution, without the intervention of a judicial sentence, where children have been remarkably disobedient. A parent may, however, leave *one tenth* of his *acquired wealth* to such child, or other person, to whom he wishes to shew particular affection or esteem.

Marriages are generally founded on the mercenary motives of parents, without regarding the inclination of the parties. Very few romantic lovers are to be found in this country. Clandestine matches are hardly ever heard of, nor can the church give licence to marry, without publication of the banns. The children of noble families are generally turned of thirty before their marriage; the parents being seldom in a condition to give up any part of their own fortunes in their life time: they are therefore obliged

to wait for the death of relations, or advancement to office, to furnish them with the means of subsisting. The women are fair and well shaped: they are also reputed more eminent for chastity before, than for fidelity after marriage. They are kept by the husbands under such authority, as would be deemed oppression in France or England. The lower sort, besides the offices peculiar to their sex, submit to every kind of drudgery. They plough the fields, thresh the corn, row in boats, and carry burdens. Divorces, and other separations between men and their wives, hardly ever happen but among the inferior sort, when the innocent party is permitted to marry again.

In wedding, as well as in funeral entertainments, the Swedes affect pomp and superfluity, and both are attended with riot and excess.

Some of the ecclesiastical laws in Sweden are remarkable. By their canons it is ordained, among other things, that, 1. "If any Swedish subject change his religion, he shall be banished the kingdom, and lose all right of inheritance both for himself and his descendants. 2. If any continue excommunicated above a year, he shall be imprisoned one month, with bread and water, and then banished. 3. If any bring into the country, teachers of another religion, he shall be fined and banished. 4. Foreign ministers shall enjoy the free exercise of their religion only for themselves and families. 5. Strangers of a different religion shall have no public exercise of it, and their children shall be baptised by Lutheran ministers, and educated in that religion; otherwise they shall not have the privilege of Swedish subjects."

The Swedes are in general of a large stature, with white or yellow hair. People of fashion

are dressed in the French mode; and the commonalty as in Denmark, wear cloaths made of coarse stuff, lined with sheep-skin, &c. Their diversions also are the same as those of their neighbours; such as skating, running races in sledges, and in even sailing in yachts upon the ice; exercises which they perform with amazing swiftness and dexterity.

DIVISION OF SWEDEN.

IT is divided into seven parts, namely, Sweden, properly so called, Gothland, Livonia, Ingria, Finland, Lapland, and several islands in the Baltic. Sweden, properly so called, is bounded on the north by Lapland; on the east by the Gulph of Bothnia; on the west by the Norwegian mountains; and on the south by Gothland. It is subdivided into eleven parts, namely, Uplandia, Sudermania, Westmania, Nericia, Gestricia, Helsingia, Dalekarlia, Midelpadia, Angermania, Jemptia, and West-Bothnia. We shall begin with

U P L A N D I A.

THIS province extends seventy-five miles from north to south, between the Baltic and Gestricia, being separated from the latter by the river Dala. Its extent from east to west is sixty miles, between the Baltic and the province of Westmania. The country is fertile, producing excellent wheat: it is also enriched with mines of iron, lead, and silver. This territory is watered with twelve rivers, and a still greater number of lakes. The Meler-lake is the principal among the

the latter, and lies in the midst of Uplandia, Sudermania, and Westmania. It is forty-eight miles in length, yields an immense quantity of fish, and is said to contain twelve hundred and ninety islands. Its banks are beautifully diversified with towns, castles, churches, noblemens' seats, and other edifices. It has a communication with the sea, through the outlets of the north and south rivers or channels, near Stockholm. The chief occupation of the inhabitants of Uplandia is agriculture; but in some places they work in the mines, and in others they are employed in the fisheries. The most considerable places in this province are,

STOCKHOLM, the capital of the kingdom, and the residence of the king, situated at the junction of the Baltic and the Meler-lake, and therefore having the conveniency of salt and fresh water. It derives its name from its situation, and the great quantity of timber used in the building it; *Stock* signifying timber, and *holm* an island.

Mr. Wraxall, however, thus accounts for its name. The inhabitants themselves assured me that the place owed its original, only about three centuries ago, to an accidental contingency. The viceroy, who at that time governed the country under Christian the Second of Denmark, determined to found a city, and instead of fixing on a proper spot for the execution of his plan, he very wisely set a large piece of wood afloat down the Meler-Lake, and resolved that at whatever place it should stop, there to build his projected town. A small island arrested the stick in its progress, and the name of Stockholm is said to have been given it from this circumstance. It was hardly possible, however, to have found a
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more barren desert, or a less inviting situation in almost all respects. *Wraxall's Tr.* 103.

It is two hundred and eighty miles north-east of Copenhagen, three hundred and forty-two from Wyburg, two hundred and twenty-four from Gottenburg, three hundred and eighty-seven west of Petersburg, four hundred and sixty-five from Warsaw, six hundred north of Vienna, eight hundred and forty from Paris, and seven hundred and ninety north-east of London. It is situated on a cluster of small islands* and the houses are founded upon piles. Including the two suburbs, one of which stands on the peninsula of Toren, and the other in Athundria, the town is as large and as populous as Bristol. The sea-water is here potable, the freshness being occasioned by the great quantity which the lake discharges. The castle or palace, is a spacious building, without taste or magnificence, furnishing accommodations not only for the royal family, but also for the greater part of the officers belonging to the household: it likewise comprehends the national or supreme court of justice, the colleges of war, chancery, treasury, and commerce; a chapel armoury, library, and an office for the public records; but most of the inferior officers and servants belonging to the court, including the foot-guards, are quartered on the burghers. The palace of the nobility, in which they assemble at the convention of the states, is an elegant building, adorned on the outside with marble statues and columns, and decorated within with painting and sculpture. This, as well as all the other stately edifices in the kingdom, is covered with copper.

* Mr. Wraxall says seven.

The situation of this palace is on the banks of the lake, where three others are erected of equal magnificence, and on the same model, so as to compose an uniform piece of architecture. The bank, built at the expence of the city, is a noble structure; and contributes, with many sumptuous houses belonging to the nobility, to exhibit a very splendid appearance. The houses of the burghers are generally built of brick in the city; but in the suburbs they are usually composed of timber, and consequently very subject to conflagrations. These houses are often framed in Finland, according to the plan and dimensions prescribed, and from thence transported in pieces to Stockholm by water, where they are put together by the carpenters. These wooden habitations, with occasional repairs, will last thirty or forty years, and are neater, warmer, and more comfortable than those of brick or stone.

To prevent the danger of conflagrations, the city is divided into twelve wards. Each of these has a master and four assistants, who instantly attend upon the alarm of fire; and all porters and labourers are obliged to range themselves under the master of the ward to which they belong. A fire-watch patrols the streets by night, to give warning, or assistance if required; and a centinel is placed in the steeple of every church, to toll the bell on the appearance of any such accident. The police of Stockholm is regulated by the grand governor, assisted by a deputy and bailiff of the castle. This city is the staple of Sweden; to which all the commodities of the kingdom are brought for exportation, and where almost all the imports from abroad are deposited. The port or haven, formed by the lake Meler, is sufficiently capacious to contain a thousand sail of shipping, and is furnished with a quay or

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wharf;

wharf, about an English mile in length, to which the vessels may lie with their broadsides. The greatest inconveniency attending this situation is the distance from the sea, and the winding of the river, which is remarkably crooked. It opens into the Baltic, and the entrance, which is dangerous and rocky, is secured with two small forts: within, it is perfectly safe and commodious. Most of the streets of this town are broad, and kept very clean, and the market-places are spacious.

The city, properly so called, contains upwards of five thousand houses, the chief of which are built upon piles, and are four or five stories in height. The number of inhabitants who pay taxes is estimated at sixty thousand. Stockholm is ornamented with twenty churches. In that dedicated to St. Francis, are deposited the remains of the following kings: Magnus Ladulas, Charles VIII. Gustavus Adolphus, Charles X. Charles XII. and Frederic I. with the queens Maria-Eleanora, Hedwig-Eleanora, and the two Ulrica-Eleanoras; besides several princes and princesses. This city contains a town-house, a college of physicians, a navy office, a board of admiralty, an orphan house, a grammar-school, a marine fraternity, &c. The northern suburbs are remarkable for the king's gardens, and for the great number of artisans who have chosen their habitations in that quarter. In the southern suburb the Muscovite commodities are sold, and a magnificent exchange is there situated, where the merchants daily assemble.

This city is enlarged nearly or quite half, since the death of Charles the XIIth, and there are many very noble streets in these new quarters, of a vast length. *Wraxall's Tr.* 116.

UPSAL,

UPSAL, an ancient city on the banks of the Sala, about forty-two miles north-west of Stockholm. It was anciently the chief seat of the sovereigns of Sweden, where they had their supreme tribunal. The greatest sacrifices offered in all the northern provinces, were brought hither in the time of Paganism; and the most eminent heathen priests had their residence in this city. The town is large, and stands on both sides of the river, which is pretty broad, and so hard frozen in the winter, that an annual fair is kept on the ice in the month of February. The fortifications of this place are inconsiderable; but the castle, which is seated on a hill, and commands the city, is pretty well fortified, very spacious, and elegantly built in the Italian manner.

Upsal was erected into a metropolitan see by pope Eugenius III. and the Roman catholic prelates of this archbishopric lived in great splendor, never appearing abroad without a retinue of five hundred horse. It was in the castle of Upsal that queen Christina abdicated the crown, in 1654; and here Gustavus I. assembled the states, in order to abolish the Roman catholic religion. Here is an university. The royal academy of sciences was instituted here in 1728. The archbishop of Upsal is the *Procancellarius Academiæ*, or vice-chancellor of the university. The governor of Uplandia resides in this city.

The university of Upsal, says Mr. Wraxall, of which the Swedes had taught me to expect great things, has not one piece of painting within its walls, and only two of sculpture, which are busts of Gustavus Adolphus, and Charles the Eleventh. There are, at this time, near fifteen hundred students in this university. They are not, however, young men of family and condition as with us, but

for the most part are miserably poor, and lodge five or six together in wretched hovels, amidst dirt and penury. The professors in different branches of literature are about twenty-two, the largest of whose salaries does not exceed one hundred and thirty, or one hundred and forty pounds per annum, and are in general not half that sum. The library is a neat good building, and there is a cabinet in it, at which, for want of a better employment, I spent an hour or two while the librarian shewed me a number of little trinkets, rather than rarities, which are preserved with great care. Among these is the identical bag, in which Judas kept one of the thirty pieces of silver money which he received for his perfidy in delivering up his master: and a pair of red slippers, in which the Virgin Mary paid a visit to her cousin Elizabeth. I must do the man the justice to say, that he blushed, as he shewed them to me. As to the cathedral, it is built of brick, and as the two towers at the west end lately wanted repair, they have with great taste added a Doric architrave to these Gothic walls, and placed two great domes of copper on the top. It must notwithstanding be for ever venerable, while the remains of Gustavus Vasa, and Chancellor Oxenstiern repose in it. The last of these great men, whose virtue and wisdom Sweden yet reveres, rests in an obscure chapel, beneath a common stone. He has no monument erected, or epitaph inscribed to his memory, while a St. Eric, who was a king and a devotee in some barbarous age, is preserved in a shrine of silver gilt, and placed on the right hand of the high altar. *Wraxall's Tr.* 163.

The physic garden here was laid out principally by Linnæus.

This

This province also contains Enköping, an old town; Östhammar, a sea-port; Noatgelge, a sea-port; Öregrund, also a sea-port; with the small towns of Elfskaraby, and Sigtuna.

S U D E R M A N I A.

THIS territory is separated from Uplandia on the north by the lake Meler; on the east it is bounded by the Baltic; on the west by Nericia; and on the south by East Gothland. It is a populous country extending sixty miles in length, and forty-five in breadth, and is not only extremely fruitful in corn, but rich in mines and timber. Here are eleven rivers, and several fresh-water lakes. The inhabitants are principally engaged in agriculture, hunting, fishing, and working in the mines: they also carry on a considerable trade in corn, iron, and wooden-ware. This province is usually sub-divided into Sudermania, properly so called, and the island of Foren, formed by the lakes Meler and Rekarma. The principal towns are,

NIKIOPING, a well-built staple town, and the capital of the province, seated on the shore of the Baltic, forty-eight miles south of Stockholm. It is one of the most ancient cities in the kingdom of Sweden, and was formerly the residence of the kings and princes of Sudermania. The air of this place is so temperate and salubrious, that, in times of contagion, the royal family, and the several boards and offices, have frequently removed hither, from Stockholm. The city is divided into two nearly equal parts, by a large river which rises in Laughelsen, over which an elegant stone bridge was built in 1728. Nikio-
ping

ping was almost consumed by fire in 1661, and suffered greatly by the ravages of the Russians in 1719. Here was formerly a very ancient castle, famed in history, in which the kings of Sudermania resided, but it was demolished in 1665. The streets are very commodious, and that called the high-street, is planted with Dutch limes. It has two churches, an excellent harbour, several manufactures, and a good trade. The governor of Sudermania has a palace in this city.

STRENGNASS, or **STRENGNESS**, an ancient town on the south side of the lake Meler, and the see of a bishop, suffragan to the metropolitan of Upsal. Its antiquity appears from some Gothic inscriptions, found upon large stones, in the Runic character, importing that heathen idols have been worshipped on that spot. In the choir of the cathedral lies Charles IX. with his two queens, and duke Charles Philip. Here is a celebrated gymnasium founded in 1626, by Gustavus Adolphus. Opposite to the town, an annual fair is held upon the ice, when the lake Meler is frozen.

The towns of Trosa, Telgen, and Torshella, are also situated in this province.

W E S T M A N I A.

THE province of Westmania is bounded on the north by Dalekarlia; on the east by Uplandia; on the west by Wermeland; and on the south by Nericia. The soil is fertile, and consists chiefly of arable land, with meadows, pastures, and very fine woods. Its length is about ninety miles, and its breadth sixty. Though it was

was formerly considerable for its silver mines, they are now exhausted or disused. It is well watered with rivers and lakes, and yields vast quantities of fish. The Meler lake is of great consequence to its commerce, as it opens a passage from this province to Stockholm. The most considerable place in this territory is,

WESTERAHS, or **AROSÉN**, a very ancient town, through which the river Schwart passes, and afterward falls into the lake Meler. It is the see of a bishop, and is rendered considerable by its castle, as well as by its situation. Here was concluded the hereditary union or convention in 1544, by which the succession to the crown of Sweden was settled in the family of Gustavus Vasa. Before this event the Danes had taken possession of the castle; but that great prince, at the head of the Dalekarlians, defeated their army in this neighbourhood and retook the fortress. This cathedral is a spacious and magnificent structure famous for the architecture of its towers, and for being the burial-place of king Eric XIV. Here is a castle, part of which is made use of as a granary, with a seminary and a weighing-house for metals; from whence a vast quantity of copper, iron, and brass, is exported to Stockholm. The governor of the province resides in this town. Westerahs is thirty-five miles from Stockholm.

This province also contains the smaller towns of Arboga, Koping, Nova, and Lindesburg.

N E R I C I A.

THIS province is about sixty miles in length, and forty-eight in breadth, and is bounded on the north by Westmania; on the east by Sudermania; on the west by West Gothland and
1
Wermeland;

Wermeland; and on the south by East Gothland; and the extremity of the lake Vetter. In many parts of this district, the soil is fertile, and produces corn and pasturage. Here are also iron and sulphur mines, quarries of load-stone, alum, limestone, &c. Nericia is remarkable for several large lakes and rivers; of which last the Trosa divides the country in two parts from west to east. This district is famous for several flourishing manufactures of all kinds of hard ware, and has always been remarkable for forging arms, &c. The chief occupations of the inhabitants are agriculture, working in the mines, and forges, hunting, and fishing; and they trade in grain and iron-wares. The principal place in this province is,

OEREBRO, or OREBRO, a famous town on the Hielmar-lake, twenty miles south-west of Arboga. Having been often besieged, king Gustavus I. caused it to be well-fortified; and further improvements have been since made. Here are two churches, a grammar-school, and a manufactory of fire-arms; with a harbour on the Hielmar-lake which has a communication with the Meler, by means of the river and canal of Arboga.

Nericia also contains the small towns, named Askerfund, Sellewella, and Sioftad.

G E S T R I C I A.

THIS territory contains very little arable land, but has plenty of mines and woods; with rivers and lakes abounding with fish. It is bounded on the north by the little river Tynea; on the east it has the Gulph of Bosnia; on the west it has Dale-

Dalekarlia; and on the south the river Dala, which divides it from Uplandia. It is divided into two parts by the river Hafunda, and contains Gefle, a large handsome town, and the small towns of Borna, and Coperberget.

H E L S I N G I A.

THIS is one of the most extensive provinces of Sweden, being one hundred and thirty-seven miles in length, and seventy-eight in breadth. It is bounded on the north by Jemptia, and Medelpadia; on the east by the Gulph of Bothnia; on the west and south-west by Dalekarlia; and on the south by Gestricia. What little arable land it contains yields great crops, and the pastures feed great numbers of fine cattle. This territory contains several large forests, is enriched with iron-works, and its rivers and lakes abound in fish. The natives of this province are particularly celebrated for their courage. The principal places in it are Hudickswall, a small town with a harbour; and Soderhamn, a small sea-port.

DALEKARLIA, OR DALIA.

THIS derives its name from the river Dahl which crosses it. It is about one hundred and sixty-five miles in length; and one hundred in breadth: having the Norwegian mountains on the west and north; Helsingia and Gestricia on the east; and Wermeland and Westmania on the south. It is very mountainous, and has but little arable land. But where the soil between the mountains admits of tillage, it produces plenty of oats and pease, of which the natives make
U bread.

bread. The inhabitants of this province, who are called Dalekarlians, are famed in history for their integrity and firm attachment to their king and country; but they are more particularly celebrated for their bravery. They are proof against toil, hunger, and hardships, and experience the advantage of industry and œconomy, by their being able to subsist by their daily acquisitions, in such a barren and mountainous country. The Runic Calendar is still in use among them, and they carry it about as a perpetual almanack. Here are no towns, but the principal villages are Indra, Falum, and Lima.

M E D E L P A D I A.

THIS territory has Angermania on the north, the Gulph of Bothnia on the east, Jempterland on the north-west, and Helsingia, on the south-west. Though it is mountainous and full of forests, it has several delightful vallies of arable and meadow land. The seed is not sown here till about Whitsuntide, but the corn ripens in ten weeks. This province is agreeably interspersed with lakes and rivers, which yield a plentiful supply of fish: the principal rivers are the Indal and the Nisarund. The forests abound in venison, and game of all sorts; among which are elks, rein-deer, beavers, martens, weasels, lynxes, foxes, and wild-fowl. The grain which grows in this district is sufficient for the consumption of the inhabitants. They have also plenty of cattle, and deal in timber, hops, hemp, flax, fowls, butter, and dried fish. The principal places are, Sundswall, Hasio, Tuna, Nirunda, Anas, Sion, and Guarp.

A N.

A N G E R M A N I A.

THIS province is bounded on the north by West Bothnia and Lapland; on the east by the Gulph of Bothnia: on the west by Jempterland; and on the south by Medelpadia. It is ninety miles in length, and nearly as many in breadth. The river Angermanflodt, which waters it, is one of the largest in the whole kingdom, and furnishes a very lucrative salmon fishery. The country is mountainous, woody, and thinly inhabited. Some parts, however, produce excellent corn, and others rye, pease, linseed, flax, and good barley. Here are also several excellent iron-works. The only two places worth mentioning in this territory are Hernosand, a sea-port, and Natra a small place.

W E S T B O T H N I A.

THE province of West Bothnia has Angermania on the south, the Gulph of Bothnia on the east, and Swedish Lapland on the west and north. It is well peopled, abounds in villages, and is watered by the Lapland rivers Uma, Skelesta, Pitha, Lula, Rano, Torno, and Rimi, which discharge themselves into the Gulph, and give names to the towns situated to their respective mouths. Here are also many lakes, and several large forests. The country is in general level, and the soil pretty fertile; and though the inhabitants sow the corn very late, it ripens in six, seven, or eight weeks, as the ground lies more or less exposed to the north. But sudden frosts frequently

prove detrimental to the corn, particularly in the nights of the month of July.

The inhabitants of this province are much celebrated for their valour. They subsist by agriculture, grazing, hunting, and fishing; and endure hunger, and hardships beyond any other people, being inured to it from their youth. Even in fruitful years they shun indulgence, and mix their corn with chaff, and pulverize pine-bark, to make what they call their Stampe Brot, or pounded bread. They traffic in beams, deal-boards, timber, shingles, castor, tar, dried salmon and other fish, wild-fowl, venison, butter, cheese, cummin, train-oil, and tallow; their other articles are fables, the skins of blue and white foxes, ermines, bears, wolves, martens, hyenas, beavers, and rein-deer. These commodities are not only carried to other parts of Sweden, but also over the mountains to Norway, or through vast deserts to Russia. The principal place in West Bothnia is,

TORNEA, or TORNO, a small sea-port town, standing on a peninsula formed by a river of the same name. It has a good harbour, and being seated on the confines of Lapland, a very considerable trade is carried on in it, not only by the Swedes and Laplanders, but also the Russians and Norwegians. The church is built of wood, and stands at a little distance from the town. In 1694, this town was honoured with the presence of king Charles XI. who being accompanied by persons of distinctions and men of learning, took a view of the sun at midnight, if it may be so expressed, from the church tower of Tornea; for, at that time of the year, the sun may be seen above the horizon when in the opposite part of the meridian of Tornea, by a spectator placed at a certain

certain height above the surface of the earth. This town, and the adjacent country from hence to Kittis, have lately been rendered famous by the observations made in these parts by Mons. Maupertuis, and some other members of the academy of sciences at Paris, in order to determine the figure of the earth.

This province contains also the small towns of Umea, Pitha, and Lubla.

THE KINGDOM OF GOTHLAND.

GOTHLAND, or GOTHIA, in Latin *Gothia*, *Guthia*, or *Gothlandia*, is a large fertile country, and the most southern of all Sweden. It has Sweden, properly so called, on the north, and the Baltic, the Sound, and part of the ocean, on the east, south, and west. Its extent, from the confines of Dalekarlia in the north, to the coast of Schonen on the south, is about three hundred and thirty miles; and from Gottenburg in the west, to Stegeberg in the east, one hundred and seventy-four miles.

Gothland is the second division of Sweden, comprehending East Gothland, West Gothland, and South Gothland.

EAST GOTHLAND.

THIS territory includes East Gothland properly so called, Smaland, and the island of Oeland. It has Sudermania on the north, the Baltic on the east, the lake Vetter on the west, and Smaland on the south. The country is flat and fertile, producing plenty of corn, cattle, fish, fowl, and venison. Among the twenty-three lakes, which furnish

furnish East Gothland with fish and water, the Vetter, which lies between East and West Gothland is the most remarkable; for it extends ninety * miles in length, and fifteen in breadth, and contains the islands of Wisinge and Stora Rochnen. It has but one outlet by the river Motala, though upwards of forty little streams discharge themselves into it. The principal places in East Gothland are

NORKOPING, signifying the Northern Market, a very large staple-town, situated on the river Motala, which falls into the Gulph of Bravicken, about seventy-five miles south of Stockholm. It is next to Stockholm in extent, and is reckoned one of the best cities in the kingdom. In a diet held here, in 1604, duke Charles was proclaimed king, and the famous hereditary union was enacted. Though it was destroyed by the Russians in 1719, it has since recovered itself, and is now in a good condition. It contains five churches, has a good trade, and a commodious quay.

Mr. Wraxall informs us, that this town is remarkable for its manufactures of fire-arms, and every sort of military weapons. I went (says he) over the whole work, accompanied by the landlord of the inn, and must confess that it appeared to me highly to deserve attention. *Wraxall's Tr.* 92.

SODERKIOPING, or **SUDERKOPING**, a staple-town on an arm of the sea, about fifteen miles west of the Baltic. It is one of the most ancient places in Gothland, and had formerly its own municipal laws. Two kings were crowned here; and, in 1595, a diet was held in the town: but

* Mr. Wraxall says near 100.

it was then in a much more flourishing condition than it is at present, though it is still ornamented with two churches. Some curious crystal stones are found in the neighbourhood.

LINKIOPING, an ancient town on the banks of the river Steng, not far from the Roxenlake. It is the see of a bishop, and has three churches, including the cathedral, a seminary with seven masters, erected in 1628, a library, and a printing-house. There are, however, but few mechanics, and not one physician at Linkioping, though it is the residence of the governor of East Gothland. One of the kings was crowned in this place, and a diet was held in it in the year 1600. It has nothing to detain a traveller, except its cathedral.

The smaller towns in East Gothland properly so called, are Stegeberg, Wadstena, and Skoninge.

CALMAR, the capital of the province of Smaland, is a considerable city, situated on a straight of the Baltic formed by the isle of Oeland, which lies opposite to it, one hundred and sixty miles south of Stockholm. The old city, famous for the union of Calmar, after having been frequently taken and pillaged, was burnt to the ground in 1547. After this misfortune, the new city was built on the little island of Owerholm, upon a large, spacious, and uniform plan. The streets are broad and commodious, and the houses well-built, but the place is not populous. It is fortified with four walls and moats on the land side, though it has only one wall towards the sea. But the town is rendered strong by its situation, having morasses and canals on the land side, with dangerous rocks and intermediate whirlpools towards the sea. Here is also a good garrison. Calmar is a town of

of considerable trade. The prefect, or governor, resides in the royal palace of Hofmo near this city. Calmar is adorned with a bishop's palace, a gymnasium, or seminary, and a fine cathedral, with a commodious quay for shipping; and its neighbourhood is improved with a royal chace.

WEXIO, or Wexco, a considerable town, and the see of a bishop, almost in the centre of the province, forty-five miles north-west of Calmar. A seminary was founded here in 1648; but the library, and the cathedral, which was above nine hundred years old, and was the burying place of St. Siegfried, its founder, was destroyed by fire in 1740.

JONKIOPING, or JENEKOPING, an ancient staple town, delightfully situated on the lake Vetter, in which are three churches, with an armoury, an arsenal belonging to the crown, and an elaboratory. The supreme court of justice for Gothland, instituted in 1634, is held in this place, and has ten provincial, with forty-eight inferior courts, under its jurisdiction. Here was formerly a mint, and a convent of regulars. The castle, after being several times demolished and rebuilt, was totally destroyed by fire in 1737. Near the town is a royal chace, or forest, planted with oaks. The lake Vetter, on which this town stands, is near a hundred English miles in length, and rather resembles the sea than a piece of inland water. *Wraxall's Tr.* 90.

The smaller towns of this territory are Westervick, Ekefio, Grenuc, and Browalla-Heide.

WEST

WEST GOTHLAND.

THE province of West Gothland Proper was formerly governed by its own kings, and has its peculiar laws and privileges. It is bounded on the north by the lake Wenner, and part of Wermeland; on the east by part of Nericia and the lake Vetter; on the south-west by Halland; on the north-west by the river Gothelba, and the province of Dalia; and on the south-east by Smaland. It is one hundred and twenty miles in length, and ninety-six in breadth. It is well watered with lakes and rivers, and abounds with excellent pastures, enabling the inhabitants to enrich themselves by breeding numerous herds of black cattle. The Wenner-lake is eighty-four miles in length, and forty-two in breadth. Though it receives twenty-four rivers, only one flows out of it, which is called the Gothe-Elbe, and discharges itself into the sea. West Gothland is subdivided into West Gothland Proper, Wermeland, and Dalia. The principal places in which are,

GOTTENBURG, in Latin *Gothoburgum*, the capital of the province, situated in the Schagarrack, or Categate, on the south branch of the river Gothelba, which here falls into the sea, forming a commodious harbour for the city. It was built by Charles IX. in 1607, on the island of Hisingen; but, being destroyed in 1611, by Christian IV. the inhabitants were, in the reign of Gustavus Adolphus, removed to the place where the town now stands, and indulged with many extraordinary privileges, in consequence of which it became a place of considerable trade. Gotten-
X
burg

is a very opulent place, and is regularly fortified: on the land side it is also defended by two citadels, called the Lion and the Crown, and, towards the sea, by the citadel of New-Elfsburg. This city is a bishop's see, and has two printing-houses, a seminary, an orphan-house, an edifice called the crown-house, a city church, a German church, and several docks and quays; and the number of its inhabitants is computed at thirteen thousand. It is reasonable to suppose that a great number of ships frequent this city, as all those which sail from foreign sea-ports, without the Categate, may enter this port without being obliged to pass through the Sound or the Baltic. The harbour is at present an excellent one; but it is said to become shallower by degrees. Here is held a college of admiralty; and a squadron of men of war lies in the port. A brigade of engineers, and a constant garrison, are also held in this city. In 1644, the Danes exerted their utmost endeavours to destroy Gottenburg but without effect.

SKARA, or SKAREN, an ancient city, once the capital of the kingdom of Gothland, and the residence of many of its kings. It is the see of a bishop, about twelve miles south of the Wenner-lake, and eighty north-west of Gottenburg. This place was ornamented with several churches and convents, the ruins of which are still visible; but it was destroyed in 1719, and the present number of its inhabitants does not exceed four hundred. The cathedral is a very large structure. The royal palace built in 1546, which stood near this city, was laid in ashes by the Danes in 1611. In the neighbourhood stands the mountain Kendakulla, remarkable for its height and fertility. It is covered with a variety

of trees, shrubs, herbs, and plants, which not only afford a delightful prospect to the eye, but also yield food and shelter to an infinite number of birds, which in summer are incessantly warbling among these delicious groves.

The smaller towns are Lindkoping, Falkoping, Mariestadt, and Skiofde.

The district of Wermeland, or Vermelandi, extends about one hundred and forty miles from north to south, and is bounded on the north by Dalekarlia; on the east by Westmania and Nericia; on the west by Norway and part of Dalia; and on the south by the Wenner-lake. It is every where mountainous, but the east and south parts are more level than the rest of the province. It is certain, however, that the woods, and mines of silver, lead, copper, and iron, with the forges, founderies, &c. belonging to them, furnish the mountaineers with a great variety of employments. The places most entitled to notice in this territory are the three towns of Carlstadt, Philipstadt, and Ruscoy.

The district called Dahl by the Swedes, is one of the smallest in the kingdom; being about eighty-four miles from north to south, and not exceeding twenty-four from east to west. It contains but two towns worth mentioning, which are Daleburg, and Tweta.

SOUTH GOTHLAND.

THIS territory consists of three provinces, namely, Halland, Schonen, and Blekinge, which have suffered various vicissitudes. Sometimes they were subject to the crown of Denmark, and sometimes they were in the possession of the Swedes; but at length king Charles Augustus

annexed them for ever to the Swedish dominions, by the treaty of Roschild in 1658. South Gothland is surrounded by the sea, except on the north, where it is bounded by East and West Gothland. South Gothland contains,

HALMSTADT, or **HELMSTAD**, the capital of the province of Halland, a pleasant, well-built, staple-town, at the mouth of the Niffa. It 1327, it was made the capital of the province, and endowed with suitable privileges. Here was a castle, erected by Christian VI. king of Denmark, but it has been razed, and the governor of the province now resides in the citadel. The woollen manufactures established in this town are in a flourishing condition; and the salmon-fishery near it is in high estimation. In times of popery, Halmstadt was embellished with three convents; and, in 1619, it was the scene of an interview between king Gustavus Adolphus, and Christian IV. of Denmark. Near it is a large tobacco plantation. The smaller towns in Halland are Laholme, Falkenberg, Wardberg, and Kongsbacka.

LUNDEN, or **LUND**, a very ancient city, in the district of Schonen, formerly the residence of the kings of this country. It is situated at some distance from the shore, about twenty-four miles east of Copenhagen. It was formerly the see of an archbishop, and the seat of an university, at which the celebrated Samuel Puffendorf was educated; but the metropolitan dignity was removed to Copenhagen, and the university suppressed. The city was once very considerable, and adorned with twenty-two churches. The cathedral of St. Laurence, which still remains, is a magnificent structure, remarkable for a very lofty spire, which serves as a landmark to sailors; and for a curious clock

clock said to have been contrived by Caspar Bartholinus. In 1676, king Charles XI. entirely defeated the Danes near this city; and, in 1679, a peace was concluded here between Denmark and Sweden. On a hill near this place, called St. Laborius's-hill, or Spipare-hog, the Danish kings were anciently elected.

MALMO, a considerable staple-town, having walls, moats, and bastions towards the land, with several fortifications and a castle towards the sea, twelve miles south-east of Lunden. Besides an orphan-house, two churches, a large market-place, and several woollen manufactures, here is a philological society, instituted in the eleventh century, in memory of king Canute IV. surnamed the Pious.

LANDSKRONA, or **LANDSKROON**, in Latin *Coronia*, a fortified staple-town, situated near the Sound, with a commodious harbour. It contains two churches and a strong castle, built in 1549, by Christian III. king of Denmark, on the spot where an old ruinous convent stood. In this neighbourhood Christian V. of Denmark, was defeated, in a pitched battle, by Charles XI. of Sweden, in 1677.

The other towns of any note are Helfinborg, Christianstadt, Engleholm, Thorekou, and Cimbrihamn.

B L E K I N G E.

THIS province has Smaland on the north, from which it is separated by a ridge of mountains; Schonen on the west; and the Baltic on the south and east. Its greatest length is about ninety

ninety miles, and its breadth is from fifty to thirty miles. It is mountainous, woody, and barren, though watered by several rivers, which have their source in the hills, in the northern part of the province. The pastures are so nutritive, that the best cheese in Sweden is made here; but the cattle are smaller in this territory than in that of Schonen. Instead of its quota of soldiers, Blekinge maintains fifteen hundred and fifty-four sailors to serve on board the royal navy, and these are divided into three companies. The principal town in this province is,

CARLSKONA, the Crown of Charles, so called from its having been built by Charles XI. in 1679. It is seated on a little island of the same name, which is joined to the continent by a very long bridge. This city is famous for the admiralty college, which was removed hither from Stockholm, in 1680; a dock-yard, which is separated from the town by a high stone wall; and a squadron of ships of war, which is laid up here. The harbour is so commodious, that the whole royal navy may securely ride in it; and the mouth or entrance into it is defended by the citadels of Kongsholm and Drottningsskär. Here are three churches, and the number of the inhabitants is supposed to be about five thousand. The large and small islands, which lie near this place, together with the woods of oak, beech, and birch, which surround it, render the situation of it extremely pleasant. It contains an arsenal, and a marine hospital, and the governor of the province makes it his place of residence.

This province also contains the smaller towns of Ahuys, and Carlshamn.

We now proceed to the Third Grand Division of Sweden, which is,

L I V O N I A.

LIVONIA, has the Gulph of Finland on the north; that part of the Baltic called the Gulph of Riga on the west; Muscovy and Ingria on the east; and the duchy of Courland, with some part of Lithuania on the south. This province is advantageously situated for commerce, having the sea on the west and north, the great lake of Pepus on the east, and on the south the river Dwina, which rises in Muscovy, passes by the confines of Livonia, dividing it from Courland, and then falls in the Gulph of Livonia at Dunemund. Here are also three lakes, and many small rivers, which, by affording water-carriage, greatly favour and facilitate the commerce of the country. The extent of Livonia, from north to south, is about one hundred and fifty miles, and the breadth one hundred and ten. This province, though marshy in many places, is nevertheless fruitful, producing corn, pasture, and honey in abundance.

In the twelfth century, the Livonians were wild, and involved in the darkness of Pagan superstition; from which they were converted with fire and sword by their German neighbours. Albert, canon of Bremen, who built Riga, held Livonia as a fief of the empire, obtained of the emperor the privilege of coining money, and was vested with authority to institute a new order of knights, under the denomination of Sword-bearers. These military apostles shed oceans of blood in propagating the doctrines of Christ, the pattern of meekness, and the prince of peace. In the sixteenth century Albert of Brandenburg, the grand master of the Teutonic Order, with which the order of Sword-bearers were then united, espoused the doctrine of Luther; but

but a schism among the knights ensued ; and, about the year 1535, the majority of the Livonians declared for the Protestant religion, in spite of all the threats of Charles V. emperor of Germany.

This country has been alternately a prey to the Germans, the Swedes, the Poles, and the Muscovites. In 1660, it was entirely ceded to the Swedes by the treaty of Oliva. They kept possession of the province till the beginning of the present century, when, during the unfortunate war in which Charles XII. was engaged, his great rival the czar Peter subdued the whole duchy of Livonia, as well as Ingria. These conquests were afterwards confirmed to Russia by the treaty of Nyfadt, in 1721, and now constitute part of the Muscovite empire; though geographers usually describe them as provinces of Sweden, to which they so lately belonged. In 1741, Sweden attempted the recovery of part of these ceded countries, but this was attended with a farther loss; and by the peace of Abo, concluded in 1743, Russia was not only confirmed in the possession of all her conquests, but acquired some additional districts in Finland.

The inhabitants of Livonia are Lutherans, but, whilst that country was in the possession of Sweden, the Russians and papists were tolerated. It is certain, however, that, though the Livonians profess the religion of Luther, they are extremely ignorant, and addicted to many ridiculous ceremonies, which are the relics of their ancient superstition. They seem to entertain a very faint and imperfect idea of a future life: they still sacrifice on the tops of hills, and in forests. When they kill any animal, they throw part of it away to the fiend. When they brew, they pour a libation of beer on the ground, as an offering to the same being.

When

When peasants marry, the bride rides before the bridegroom, and is preceded by a bagpiper and two friends on horseback, each having a drawn sword, with which he makes a cross over the door of the bridegroom's house: one of the swords is then stuck in a beam over the head of the new-married man, to prevent his being disarmed by charms and incantations: for the same reason the bride scatters red rags, along the road, and over the graves of unbaptized infants. She sits at table with her face veiled, till the guests are seated, when she and the bridegroom retire, and, after two hours' absence, return to the company, who feast, dance, and drink, till they are rendered incapable by intoxication or fatigue.

The peasants of Livonia are wretched slaves to the nobility, who rule and punish them with the most arbitrary rigour. They have exercised their tyranny to such an extreme, that the kings of Sweden have interposed in their behalf, recommending a relaxation in their severity. The nobles are vain, proud, haughty, and ferocious. They enjoy certain privileges, which were considerably abridged by Charles XI. of Sweden, to whom they made a bold and spirited remonstrance; in consequence of which the famous count Patkul was condemned to death and confiscation. Artificers and mechanics are not so common here as in other countries. The gentry purchase corn both of their own vassals and other peasants, and some of them distill spirits from it; but others send it to the sea-ports, and there sell it to the best advantage. The peasants are obliged to bring what corn they intend for sale to the noblemen's seats, where instead of ready money for it, they generally receive iron, salt, steel, and tobacco, with other commodities and utensils of little value.

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Of

Of the dress of people of condition, Mr. Wraxall gives the following account: I had the pleasure to dine in company with four ladies yesterday, who were habited in the Livonian dress. Nothing could more aptly realize that barbarous splendor which has been so frequently depicted, but is now so rarely to be seen in any parts of Europe. It was expensive, and might have been worn by persons of the first eminence, without degradation of their rank. Their heads were covered with a complete bonnet of pearls, which were not worth less than two thousand rubles, [*value 4s. 6d. each*] and round their necks were several strings of the same. A part of their necks was left exposed; but the lower part was concealed by a vest of red silk, which sat close to the breast, and was bordered with a gold lace of a vast breadth, which descended to their feet. Their arms had no other covering than the sleeves of their shifts; and, when they walked out, they threw over their heads and shoulders a piece of silk resembling a Highland plaid, and which was a sort of substitute for our capuchin. Women arrive early at maturity in these northern countries, as a proof of which I cannot help mentioning, that one of these four ladies had been married six months, though she is now only twelve years and a half old, nor is this an uncommon or unprecedented thing. *Wraxall's Tr.* 274.

Livonia is divided into the two provinces of Estonia, or Estlandia, and Letten, or Litland. That which is first entitled to our attention is

E S T O N I A.

ESTONIA, which is the most northern part of Livonia, is bounded on the east by Muscovy, on the

the west by the Gulph of Riga, on the south by Letten, and on the north by the Gulph of Finland. The principal places in this province are

REVEL, an opulent well fortified city on the Gulph of Finland, about two hundred and twenty-five miles east of Stockholm. It is situated partly on a plain, and partly on a mountain, at the top of which stands a castle. Revel was one of the first places admitted into the confederacy of the Hanse-towns, and carried on a great trade till 1550; when the Russians, having reduced Narva, established the commerce there which they had formerly maintained at Revel. But the trade returned to the old channel, when the same people took Revel in 1711; and since that period, the town has had a very flourishing trade.

Though this city is secured by a Russian garrison, the people still enjoy their own forms of government, and every other mark of independency. They even hire a guard of their own, to which they commit the keeping of the great market-place. This town, as well as the whole province, received most of its privileges from the Danish kings; and the arms of Denmark, with inscriptions in the Danish language, are still seen in the churches, and other public edifices. The only churches or congregations here, besides those of the Russian church, are Lutherans. The imperial gymnasium or seminary, founded in 1631, has four professors, and one teacher of the Russian language. Here is also a town-school, and, near the cathedral, the school of the nobility. The tolls or customs are considerable; of which the magistracy have a part, and the rest belongs to the crown. Here is a spacious harbour, in which a part of the Russian fleet usually lies. The town is surrounded with high walls, strengthened

ened with bastions and a deep ditch; and, for its further security, is fortified with a castle, which stands on a rock, and is ornamented with several towers. The citizens have many very pleasant gardens without the walls.

NARVA, or NERVA, a considerable town on the banks of a rapid river of the same name, which divides Livonia from Ingria, and falls into the Gulph of Finland, about one hundred miles east of Revel. It is not large, but the houses are handsomely built with stone. Narva is commodiously situated for trade, is well fortified, and has always a good garrison. It was built by Waldemar I. king of Denmark, taken by John Basilowitz, czar of Muscovy, retaken by the Swedes, and finally by the czar Peter. In 1700, it was besieged by an army of eighty thousand Russians, under the command of the duke De Croy. Charles XII. of Sweden advanced to its relief at the head of eight thousand men, attacked the Muscovites in their lines, defeated them entirely, slew twenty thousand on the spot, made the general prisoner, and took all the principal officers, with cannon, baggage, &c.

Mr. Wraxall informs us, that the entrenchments of the Russian camp are still distinctly visible, and extend near eighteen miles along the shore of the Gulf of Finland. Their head-quarters were established in a little island situated at the narrowest part of the river, where was a bridge, which sinking under the crowd of flying Muscovites, destroyed as great a number as their enemies had done. Peter most severely revenged the dishonour of his arms on that unfortunate day, when he afterwards took Narva, and transported

ported the wretched inhabitants into the most remote parts of his dominions: they yet shew the bastion where he gave the assault. *Wraxall's Tr.* 268.

Besides the Russian churches, here is a Lutheran church for the Germans, and two others for the Fins and Swedes.

IWANAGORAD, a fortress on the other side of the river opposite to Narva, built upon a steep rock; at the foot of which stands a little town, called Russian Narva, inhabited only by Muscovites. These people, among other superstitious rites and ceremonies, observe the eve of Whitsunday as a festival sacred to the dead. On this occasion the women assemble in the church-yard, and, spreading napkins on the graves and tombstones, cover them with a variety of dishes of broiled and fried fish, cakes, custards, and painted eggs: then the priest perfumes them with frankincense, and repeats several long prayers; during which time the women make piteous outcries, and lamentations. The priest has an attendant, who gathers up the offerings for the use and entertainment of his master.

DERPT, formerly a flourishing city, being the residence of a bishop, and embellished with a cathedral. It was also a member of the Hanseatic confederacy; and, by means of the communication it had with Pernau by a canal, which was destroyed in the last Russian wars, carried on a considerable trade by sea. An English staple was also fixed in this town, as appears from the large stone edifice which was the English factory, though it was afterwards converted into a magazine. In 1632, Gustavus Adolphus founded an university in this town; which, falling to decay amidst the confusion of subsequent wars,

was

was restored in 1690, but in 1699, it was removed to Pernau, where it gradually declined, and afterwards became a magazine. The inhabitants of Derpt were wealthy, and the town was embellished with many handsome edifices; but its opulence and beauty have, from time to time, fallen a prey to the frequent ravages of war. Not to mention the more ancient sieges of Derpt, and those in 1582, 1604, and 1654, this city was besieged in 1704, when it was taken and plundered, and the inhabitants treated with great cruelty: but the total ruin of it was effected in 1708, when all the inhabitants were carried away as prisoners of war, by the Russians, and the castle and fortifications blown up. Those unhappy captives, being afterwards permitted to return to their native place, rebuilt it with mean timber houses, as their wretched circumstances would permit. Since the peace of Nystadt, the number of its inhabitants has been considerably increased; but almost all the buildings still lie in ruins; and the fortifications, walls, and gates, with most of the public structures and private houses, which are fallen to decay, make a very melancholy appearance. This town is about sixty miles south of Nerva.

This place, says Mr. Wraxall, which is rather a large straggling ill-built village than a city, was formerly of considerable importance, having been fortified, and a frontier garrison on the side of Muscovy. It is situated in the most fertile and beautiful part of the province, on a small river which communicates with the Peipus lake. *Wraxall's Tr.* 277.

This province also contains the smaller towns of Weisenberg, Wessenstein, Tolsburg, Habsal, and Pernal.

LET TEN,

L E T T E N, or L I T L A N D.

THIS province is bounded on the north by Estonia; on the east by Muscovy; on the west by the Baltic; and on the south and south-west, by the river Duna; though even beyond that river there is a small tract of land belonging to Letten, to which are also annexed the islands of Oesel and Daglio. In this district the most considerable places are,

RIGA, the capital of the province, and of all Livonia, a very considerable city on the western bank of the river Duna, which at the distance of six miles discharges itself into the Baltic, making a commodious harbour, from thence called the Gulph of Riga; though others name it the Gulph of Livonia. It is one hundred and twenty miles south of Revel, and one hundred and sixty-five north-west of Narva. Though this city is not of any great extent, it is famed for its trade and opulence. In 1660 Charles XI. king of Sweden, not only declared it to be the capital of the country, but conferred on it the next rank to Stockholm, and honoured all the members of its council, and their successors with the title of noble. It formerly engaged in the Hanseatic confederacy, and for many years continued a free town, under the protection of the German emperors.

This city, by means of its excellent harbour, has a good trade with England, Holland, and the Hanse-towns during the summer; and in winter it traffics with the Russian provinces by the convenience of sledges. The supreme court of judicature for Livonia, and the high consistory, are held in this city; which is also the residence of

governor and general superintendant. In the sixteenth century the inhabitants unanimously embraced the Lutheran religion, expelled the Roman catholic clergy, and seized upon their estates. Since that period Riga has been several times reduced, and alternately subject to the Muscovites, the Poles, and the Swedes. In July 1710, it was reduced to a heap of rubbish, and finally submitted to the victorious arms of Peter the Great, and still continues a part of the Russian dominions. This city has risen more commodious from its ashes, and carries on a very considerable trade in corn, hemp, flax, pitch, tar, planks, furs, Russian-leather, and pot-ashes; exchanging these articles for the commodities of more southern countries. The harbour is defended by the forts of Dunemunde-schans, about six miles below the city, near the mouth of Duna. The town itself is well fortified with walls, bastions, a large and deep fosse, a strong castle on the river, and a strong fortress opposite to the town. The houses are handsome and principally built with stone; but the streets are narrow.

The city of Riga itself, says Mr. Wraxall, is a most disagreeable one; it is crowded together, and surrounded by fortifications which prevent a possibility of its being altered or amended in this respect. The houses are all high, and the streets very narrow, very ill paved, and very dirty. The suburbs are as large as the place itself, and are chiefly possessed by Russians, the municipal privileges excluding them from the capacity of exercising any trade within its walls. There are about eight thousand inhabitants in the city, and as many more in the fauxbourgs. The commerce from this port is prodigious. The bridge over the river is one of the most singular and surprising

ing in Europe: it is nine hundred paces long, and far exceeds in length that at Rouen, or any I have ever seen. It consists of transverse beams of timber joined together, and rises or falls with the tide. In spring, as soon as the Duna is quite free from ice, they build it, and it is removed before the frost sets in, which happens commonly in November. It is only about nine or ten English miles to the mouth of the river, where it empties itself into the Baltic. *Wraxall's Tr.* 282.

The Lutheran churches, namely, the cathedral, and those dedicated to St. James, St. Mary Magdalen, St. Peter, and St. John, are handsome structures. The seminaries called the imperial lyceum, and the city gymnasium, the masters of which have very considerable salaries, are in a flourishing condition.

This province also contains the small towns of Kopenhausen, Nienhaus, Marienberg, Warbeck, and Wolmar.

The next general division of Sweden is

I N G R I A.

INGRIA, or INGERMERLAND, is a pleasant country lying on the north of Livonia. Its extent from east to west is about one hundred and thirty-five miles, and from north to south seventy-six. It is bounded on the north by the bottom of the Gulph of Finland, the river Neva, and the lake Ladoga; on the east by an imaginary line, drawn from the town of Luba to the river Luga; on the west by part of the lake Peibus and the river Narva, dividing it from that part of Livonia; and by the river Luga on the south. This country is fertile, and abounds in corn, pasture, and cattle. Here is also found a great
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number of wild-beasts, including elks, which in summer swim the river Neva into Carelia, and return at the approach of winter. Whilst the Swedes were in possession of Ingria, Lutheranism was the only religion professed in the country, but now a great many Russians, who are of the Greek church, are mixed with the old inhabitants. This country is by some geographers divided into three parts: Ingria Proper, Ingermania, and Soluskia: of which the principal places are

PETERSBURG, the capital of Ingria, and of the whole Russian empire, situated between Finland and Ingria, about one hundred and eighty miles east of Revel, three hundred and thirty north-west of Moscow, five hundred and seventy north-east of Warsaw; three hundred and eighty-seven from Stockholm; eight hundred and forty north-east of Vienna; and eleven hundred and ten north-east of London.

This city is yet only an immense outline, which will require future empresses, and almost future ages to complete. It stands at present on a prodigious extent of ground; but the houses in many parts are not contiguous, and great spaces are left unbuilt. *Wraxall's Tr.* 231.

The czar Peter, desirous of opening an easy communication between Archangel and the Baltic, by means of the Gulph of Finland, in order to facilitate and improve the commerce of his dominions, resolved to obtain possession of Ingria, which accordingly he re-conquered from Sweden the beginning of this century. The Russians had been masters of it before, even so early as the thirteenth century, but were afterwards obliged to restore it to Sweden. It was, however, confirmed to Russia, with other conquests, by the treaties of Nystadt and Abo. Fired with the ambition of becom-

becoming a maritime power in the Baltic, Peter resolved to found this city, which is now the residence of the Russian court, and the centre of trade for all the Muscovite dominions.

The spot he pitched upon was a low, fenny, uncultivated island, formed by the branches of the river Neva, as they pass into the Gulph of Finland. In the short summer of these climates this island was nothing but a heap of mud; and in the winter it became a frozen pool, rendered almost inaccessible by dreary forests and deep morasses, the haunts of bears, wolves, and other savage animals. Such was the natural state of the ground on which Peter raised an unexampled monument of policy and greatness. Having taken the fort of Nattebourg, and the town of Neischanz, in 1703, this mighty conqueror assembled in Ingria above three hundred thousand men, Russians, Tartars, Cossacks, Livonians, and others, even from the most distant parts of his vast empire, and laid the foundation of the citadel and fortifications, which were finished in four months, almost in despite of nature. He was obliged to open ways through forests, drain bogs, raise dykes, and lay causeways, before he could attempt to found the city, and the workmen were very ill provided with tools and implements. They had neither huts nor houses to shelter them from the severity of the weather: the country, which had been desolated by war, could not accomodate such a multitude with provision; and the supplies by the lake Ladoga were often retarded by contrary winds. In consequence of these hardships, upwards of one hundred thousand men are said to have perished.

The work, however, proceeded with incredible vigour and expedition; while Peter, for the security of his workmen, formed a large camp, in

such a manner that his infantry continued in Finland, and his cavalry were quartered in Ingria. Some Swedish cruizers attempted to interrupt them, but they were repulsed by a body of troops, which the czar posted in the isle of Rutzari. The buildings of the city kept pace with the fortrefs, which is in the centre of the town, surrounded by the Neva, and, in little more than a year, upwards of thirty thousand houses were erected. There are now more than double that number at Petersburg. To people this city, Peter invited hither merchants, artificers, mechanics, &c. from all the different countries of Europe. He demolished the town of Nienchan's, and brought hither not only all the materials of the houses, but also the inhabitants themselves. A thousand families were drawn from Moscow. He obliged his nobility to quit their palaces and villas in and about Moscow, and fix their residence at Petersburg, in a colder and much more comfortless climate. To bring hither the trade of Archangel, he ordained that all such merchandize as had been conveyed thither, in order to be sold to foreigners, should be sent to Petersburg, where they should pay no more than the usual duties. These endeavours and regulations, have rendered this one of the greatest and most flourishing cities in Europe. The Russian boyars and nobility have magnificent palaces, and are now reconciled to their situation.

Many houses having been at first built of timber, the czar issued an order in 1714, that all new houses should be walled with brick and covered with tiles, to prevent sudden conflagrations. The fort is an irregular hexagon, with opposite bastions. The curtain of the fort, on the right hand side, contains a noble dispensary, well supplied with excellent medicines, and enriched with a great

number of porcelain vases from China and Japan. The citadel has but two gates, one of which is adorned with statues, particularly that of St. Peter with two keys in his hand. On the inside of the same gate stands the black eagle of Russia, holding the sceptre with one of his talons, and the imperial globe with the other. A little below appears the figure of St. Nicholas, one of the greatest saints among the Russians. From one of the gates of the fort, a draw-bridge is thrown over an arm of the river, in which the czar's galleys, and other small vessels, are sheltered in the winter.

Without entering into too minute a description of this wonderful city, we must observe that it extends upwards of six miles every way, and contains as many structures for the improvement of the arts, revenue, navigation, war, commerce, &c. as are to be found in the most celebrated cities in Europe. It is indeed adorned with many noble buildings: the czar's palace, and the cathedral built under the direction of an Italian architect, named Treffini, are some of the most elegant and superb edifices of their kind. The czarina's winter palace is uncommonly magnificent.

Mr. Wraxall thus describes it: the winter palace was erected by the late empress Elizabeth, is very large, and very heavy: one would have supposed Sir John Vanbrugh was invoked to lend his aid in the plan of it, since nothing can more strikingly resemble his style. The situation is very lovely, on the banks of the Neva, and in the centre of the town. Contiguous to it is a small palace built by the present empress, and called (why I know not) The Hermitage. It no more resembles our idea of a hermitage, than it does a temple; but when her majesty resides in this part
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of the building, she is in retreat, and there is no drawing-room or court. I was admitted to see these apartments, which are very elegant, and furnished with great taste. There are two galleries of paintings, which have lately been purchased at an immense expence in Italy; and among which I would willingly, was it permitted, spend some hours every day during my residence here. The crown which I saw in the palace itself, is perhaps the richest in Europe. It is shaped like a bonnet, and totally covered with diamonds. In the sceptre is the celebrated one, purchased by prince Orloff for five hundred thousand rubles, and lately presented by him to his sovereign mistress. It far exceeds Pitt's diamond in size, and is not inferior in water. Lapidaries declare it the most beautiful and rare ever brought from Golconda. *Wraxall's Tr.* 242.

Several of the noblemen have fine houses here, adorned with gardens, grottos, green-houses, and whatever can be seen in the palaces of the greatest sovereigns who inhabit the south of Europe. Here is a convent, in which four hundred and forty young ladies are educated at the expence of the empress; two hundred of them are of superior rank; the others are daughters of citizens and tradesmen, who, after a certain time allotted to their education, quit the convent with improvements suitable to their condition of life; and those of the lower class are presented with a sum of money as a dowry, if they marry, or procure to themselves a proper livelihood.

Not far from this convent stands a foundling hospital, assistant to that which is established at Moscow, where a pregnant woman may come to be delivered privately; and where after having been treated with the utmost care, tenderness, and attention, she leaves the child to the state,

as a parent more capable of promoting its welfare.

As Petersburg is the emporium of Russia, the number of foreign ships trading to it, in the summer, is surprising. In winter, three thousand one-horse sledges are employed for passengers in the streets. This city, which is supposed to contain four hundred thousand inhabitants, is ornamented with thirty-five large churches, as almost every sect of the Christian religion is tolerated in it. This magnificent city is defended on that side next the sea by the fortress of Cronstadt; which, considering the difficulty and danger of navigating a large naval force through the Gulph of Finland, is sufficient to guard it on that side from the attempts of any enemy. After the czar Peter had laid the foundations, and made some progress in building his new city, he began to think of a convenient harbour, in which the shipping might be secure; he therefore pitched upon the island of Rutzari at the mouth of the Gulph of Finland. There he built a new town called Cronstadt, and secured it with a castle of the same name, as above-mentioned, situated on a sand-bank near the side of the Ingria; so that, between the castle and the town, the shipping ride in a safe, deep, spacious, and commodious harbour. The castle is built in the form of a round tower encircled with three rows of galleries, well furnished with cannon. There are also two small batteries on the opposite island; and, in case of emergency, a large train of artillery may be mounted on the piers of the harbour.

The adjacent country is so barren, that the town is supplied with provisions from distant parts, and are therefore very dear. In winter the weather is extremely cold at Petersburg, and excessive hot in summer. This city is very much subject to

to dangerous inundations. In 1715, all the bastions and draw-bridges were overwhelmed or carried away. The breadth, depth, and rapidity of the Neva, render it extremely difficult, if not impracticable, to join the islands and the continent by bridges. But Peter, was averse to this expedient for another reason: resolved to accustom his subjects to navigation, he not only rejected the project of a bridge, but ordered that no boat should pass between the islands and the continent but by the help of sails only. In consequence of this strange resolution, many lives were lost; but at length he gained his point, and, by inhabituating his sluggish Mucovites to the dangers of the sea, in a little time produced a breed of hardy sailors.

Mr. Wraxall tells us, he was more charmed with the river Neva itself, than with any thing he saw at Petersburg. The Thames, he says, is not comparable to it in beauty: and as the stream sets constantly out of the Lake Ladoga into the gulf of Finland, it is always full, clear, and perfectly clean. Along its banks is, beyond all doubt, the finest walk in the world. It is not a quay, as vessels never come up to this part, but a parade, running a mile in length; the buildings on which are hardly to be exceeded in elegance. It is yet to be continued to double the length. Over the river, in the narrowest part, is a bridge on pontoons. From this noble river, canals are cut to all parts of the city; nor could any situation be more favourable to the genius of commerce, if the inclemency of the latitude did not keep it froze up at least five months annually. As this place is the formation of so few years, it is laid out with great regularity. The buildings have throughout a very handsome appearance, and

and are, like every thing else, on a larger scale than I have ever seen elsewhere. *Wraxall's Tr.*

243.

The police of Petersburg is very good; a person may walk with great safety at any hour. Murders happen but seldom.

Some branches of the police appear singular, though they are productive of salutary consequences. The apothecaries dare not sell any medicine or drug, under a severe penalty, unless the buyer brings a prescription with him, signed by a physician. This prevents empirics from destroying numbers, as they do with impunity in England. No strangers can quit this capital to pass the frontiers, without having been first advertised in all the public papers for ten days preceding his departure, though his business or affairs should be ever so urgent.

The following relation, from Mr. Wraxall, is singular: I am only just returned from being a spectator of one of their customs, at which I could not help being a little surprised.—It was a promiscuous bathing of not less than two hundred persons of both sexes.—There are several of these public bagnios in Petersburg, and every one pays a few copiques (value a halfpenny English each) for admittance. There are, indeed, separate spaces for the men and women; but they seem quite regardless of this distinction, and sit or bathe in a state of absolute nudity among each other. What is equally extraordinary, they go first into a room heated to so intense a degree, that it is scarce possible to breathe in it; and, after having remained there till their bodies are in the most violent perspiration, they instantly either plunge into the cold water of the Neva, or throw a quantity of it over them, from little buckets with which they are all provided for that purpose.

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This may only harden a Russian constitution, but I believe, would be found to have different effects on an English one. The greater part of the women were the most hideous figures I ever beheld, and reminded me of Horace's Canidia, for whom they were very proper companions. I counted half a dozen young girls who appeared tolerably pretty, and they never could have been viewed to more advantage than near such foils. As a studier of nature, I confess this is as proper a school as can be imagined, since fancy can hardly figure an attitude which may not be found here; but, as a voluptuary, I never would visit it more. *W'raxall's Tr.* 248.

Along the banks of the river, from Cronstadt to Petersburg, the country is embellished with elegant houses. Among these the chief are Orangenbaum, belonging to the prince Menzikoff; and the empress's pleasure-house, called Petershoff, which is furnished in the Dutch taste, and provided with gardens, plantations, fish-ponds, and cascades.

The morals of the inhabitants of Petersburg, as in all large cities, are much depraved. The suspicious vigilance of the Russian government, renders it necessary for a stranger to be very circumspect in his words and behaviour: nevertheless foreigners, who are very numerous here, enjoy all possible liberty of conscience, provided they say nothing against the Greek church.

NOTTEBURG, or **NOTEBURG**, a strong fortress and sea-port, seated on an island formed by the river Neva, near the western bank of the lake Ladoga. It belonged formerly to the Muscovites, but was taken by Gustavus Adolphus, in 1612. It continued ninety years in the possession of the Swedes, who improved its fortifications; but

but it was retaken by the czar Peter, in 1702. It is the key from Finland into Ingria.

COPERIO, a fort situated on the bank of a small river, forty-five miles north-east of Iwanagorod.

JAMA, a fortress on a river of the same name, fifteen miles north-east of Iwanagorod.

POSAD, a small town at the entrance of the Ladoga canal.

All these towns and forts were ceded by the Muscovites to the Swedes in 1618, but the czar retook them in the beginning of the present century, and they still form apart of the Russian dominions. The next object of our attention is.

F I N L A N D.

THIS territory extends from the Gulph of Finland to the Polish circle, being about three hundred and eighty-six miles from north to south, and two hundred and fifteen from east to west. It has the river Kiro on the north; Tavastia and Nyland on the east; the Gulph of Bothnia on the west; and that of Finland on the south. The soil is fertile, and the country affords pleasant prospects, especially in the southern parts, where it is diversified with fine rivers, lakes, corn-fields, meadows, pastures, woods, and hop-gardens. But the north of Finland is not so well cultivated. The people speak a language peculiar to themselves, though it has a strong affinity with that which is spoken in Sweden: and the only established religion is Lutheranism. The Finlanders were governed by kings of their own

till the middle of the thirteenth century, when they were conquered by Eric IX. of Sweden. Since that period, Finland, under the title of the Grand Duchy, was long possessed as an inheritance by the brothers of the Swedish monarchs, though now it is united to the crown. But Sweden, in endeavouring to recover what had before been taken from her, lost part of the province of Savolaxia, the whole of Kexholm, and the best part of Carelia, together with the town and fortrefs of Nyflot: these were ceded for ever to Russia, by the treaty concluded at Abo in 1743.

Finland is divided into seven provinces: Finland Proper, Nyland, Carelia, Kexholm, Savolax, Tavastia, and Cajavia. In which the most considerable places are,

ABO, the capital of Finland Proper, and of the whole duchy, situated on the Bothnia Gulph, at the mouth of the river Aurojoki, opposite the isle of Aland, one hundred and fifty miles north-east of Stockholm. It is the see of a bishop, and has an university, endowed by queen Christina. It is surrounded with hills, and is a staple-town, with a very commodious harbour. The cathedral, which was built in 1300, is a handsome structure. A royal high court of judicature, which is the only one in Finland, is held at Abo, where the governor of the province also resides. It carries on a brisk trade in linen, corn, provisions, planks, &c. In 1743, a peace was concluded here between Sweden and Russia.

There is not any thing in Abo, says Mr. Wraxall, which has entertained me in the survey. It is a wretched capital of a barbarous province. The houses are almost all of wood, and the archiepiscopal palace is composed of no better materials, except that it is painted red. I enquired if there

was

was not any thing in the university to merit attention; but they assured me it would be regarded as a piece of ridicule to visit it on such an errand, there being nothing within its walls, except a very small library, and a few philosophical instruments. *Wraxall's Tr.* 188.

Near this town stands a rock, surrounded by the sea: It is very remarkable, that, when any ship approaches this rock, the needle of the compass ceases to point to the north; whence it is conjectured that the rock maintains a mine of loadstones.

HELSINGFORS, a small town, though the capital of the province of Nyland, situated at the mouth of the river Winda, which is here received by the Gulph of Finland, about ninety miles east of Abo. It stands on a peninsula, and has as commodious an harbour as any in Sweden. The inhabitants deal in timber, corn, and fish.

BORGO, a small ancient city on the coast of Finland Gulph, twenty-one miles north-east of Helsingfors. It is the see of a bishop, has a good harbour, and a seminary. It is a flourishing town, the inhabitants having a brisk trade in all kinds of linen.

WYBURG, the capital of the province of Carélie, at the bottom of a bay in the Finnic Gulph, two hundred and ten miles east of Abo, and seventy-five north-west of Petersburg. It is the see of a bishop, and, having a good harbour, is a place of great trade. It is fortified with trenches, forts, and a strong castle, and has often resisted the furious attacks of the Muscovites; but it was compelled to submit to the czar Peter the Great,

Great, and was yielded to him, with a great part of Carelia, by the treaty of Nyftadt.

This is a fortified city, fays Mr. Wraxall, and during the wars between Charles and Peter, when it belonged to the former of thofe princes, was reputed ftrong, the Ruffians having been more than once obliged to raife the fiefge; but at prefent the fortifications are ruinous. *Wraxall's Tr.* 195.

KEXHOLM, a fmall city being the capital of the province of Kexholm, among the marfhes on the western bank of the Ladoga lake, fixty miles north-eaft of Wyburg. It is defended by a very ftrong citadel, and was formerly with the whole province fubject to the Mufcovites, till about the beginning of the laft century; when the czar promifed Charles IX. king of Sweden, to furrender the town and province to him, on condition that he would affift him againft the Poles, by whom he was then vigorously befet; but, when he was relieved from the danger, he refufed to comply with his engagement. The Swedes therefore invaded his dominions, and obliged him to yield, by treaty, in 1616, not only this town and country, but alfo the moft confiderable places in Ingria: but, early in the prefent century, as we have more than once obferved, the Ruffians retook the whole.

KOSNIMPE, the principal town of the province of Savolax, fituated on a lake twenty-five miles north of Wyburg.

TAVASTUS, called alfo **CRONEBURG**, the capital of the province of Tavastia, feated in the fouthern part of the province, on a fmall river that

that falls into the lake Wane. It has a well-fortified castle, which serves for an arsenal and royal magazine.

CAJANEBURG, the principal place in the province of Cajavia, situated on the north-east side of the lake Ula-Tresk, about one hundred and seven miles north of Tavastia, and thirty from the confines of Lapland. It is deemed a good citadel.

ISLANDS BELONGING TO SWEDEN.

THE principal islands belonging to Sweden, are Gothland, Oeland, Oesel, Dago, and Hogland.

The ISLAND of GOTHLAND is situated in the Baltic, opposite to the coast of East Gothland, being about fifty-six miles in length, and eighteen in breadth. It is fertile and populous, producing rich pastures, cattle, fish, fowl, excellent water, timber, and fine marble. The principal town is Wisby, or Wisburg, situated on the eastern side, on the declivity of a rock not far from the shore. It is surrounded with a strong wall, and near the harbour stands a castle, where the governor of the island usually resides. Wisby was formerly a large, superb, and flourishing city, but it has fallen into decay, not only in the number and opulence of its inhabitants, but in the importance of its trade. The natives, however, boast of their being the first who invented and composed sea-charts and hydrographical tables.

OELAND, an island, lies opposite to the continent of South-Gothland, from which it is separated by the narrow straight called Calmarsundt. It is seventy miles in length, though its greatest breadth

breadth does not exceed twelve. The soil produces good pastures, on which are fed many herds of oxen, horses, and fallow deer. On the western coast stands the town of Barkholm, which, though a small place, is the capital of the island, defended by a castle. Oeland, which has often been attacked, is secured by several forts and castles.

OESEL, an island lying off the coast of Livonia, just before the Gulph of Riga, is tolerably fertile, and about forty miles in length. It was conquered from the Swedes by the Russians, who still possess this, with all the other appendages of Livonia. Arensburg, the principal town upon the island, is situated on the southern coast, and defended by a castle. A fortress named Sonneburg lies on the northern side.

DAGO, or DAGHOE, is an island situated to the north of Oesel, from which it is separated by the narrow straight of Honswick. It is of a triangular form, and its greatest extent from north to south is twenty-six miles. The north-east part of the coast is mountainous. On the western cape of Cago, the senate of Revel caused a very high tower to be built, called Dagheroort, which serves as a light-house and land-mark to mariners at sea. Between this island and the continent of Estonia, a sand-bank, with some small isles, are to be seen.

The small ISLE of HOGLAND, which signifies HIGHLAND, lies in the Gulph of Finland, extending about nine miles in length. The country is a cluster of rocks covered with brambles and some fir-trees, inhabited by a few hares, which grow white in winter.

L A P L A N D.

ORIGIN, SITUATION, EXTENT, DIVISION.

LAPLAND, or *Lappia*, was a name unknown to the ancients, who called the inhabitants of this country *Scritofinni*: they first inhabited Finland, but were driven more northward; whence they were called *Lappes*, a word which in the Finland tongue signifies persons banished from their country, and driven to remote places. The whole of Lapland, extending from the north cape in seventy-one degrees thirty minutes of northern latitude to the White Sea, under the Arctic Circle, is inhabited by the same people, though different parts of the country are subject to different powers. Norwegian Lapland, under the dominion of his Danish majesty, included in the government of Wardhus, lies between the Northern Sea, the river Pais, and the lake Enarak.

Swedish Lapland, comprehending all the country from the Baltic to the mountains which separate Norway from Sweden, is divided into six districts, denominated Marek, or Territory; and these are distinguished by the names of rivers,

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such as Augnermanland, Una, Peta, Lula, Torne, and Kiemi.

The eastern part, subject to Russia, is situated between the lake Enarak and the White Sea, and is divided into three distinct prefectures: that of the sea-coast, towards the north, called Mourman-koi Leporie, in which is the port of Kola, well known to the European navigators; the Terskoi Leporie, on the coast of the White Sea; and the third, or inland, known by the name of Bellamorefskoi-Leporie.

In Swedish Lapland, which is the most considerable of the three, the provinces, or marks, are subdivided into smaller districts, called Biars, consisting each of a certain number of families; among which the land is parcelled out by the government, or prefect of the district, appointed by the king of Sweden. This dismal dreary country is thinly inhabited by a wretched people.

MOUNTAINS, RIVERS, LAKES, FORESTS, CLIMATE, SOIL, PRODUCTIONS.

LAPLAND is a huge congeries of frightful rocks and stupendous mountains; among which the winter seems to rage with unceasing fury, in frost and snow, storm and whirlwind; yet, interspersed among these dreadful mountains, many pleasant vallies present themselves, watered by an infinite number of rivulets, lakes, and rivers, which discharge themselves into the Gulph of Bothnia. Some of the lakes extend one hundred and eighty miles in length, and contain a great number of islands. The natives believe this country to be the terrestrial paradise. Nothing indeed could be more enchanting than the variety of prospects, exhibited by the succession of moun-

mountains, hills, forests, lakes, rivers, and rivulets, were the country situated in a moderate climate. Even here, in summer, the roses are seen growing wild on the banks of the lakes and rivers, with all the vermillion glow that appears in those which are cultivated in our gardens. But all the intervals between the mountains are not engrossed by these agreeable rivers, lakes, rivulets, and vallies: a considerable part of the flat country is covered with brown dusky forests of fir and pine-tree; and these are often skirted with wide-extended morasses, the stagnating water of which putrefies in the summer, and produces myriads of mischievous insects, which are more intolerable than even the cold of winter.

So extreme is the cold in winter, that, in attempting to drink, the lips are often frozen to the cup or glass; and brandy can hardly be preserved in a state of fluidity. The mercury, in Reaumur's thermometer, sinks to thirty-seven degrees below the freezing point, though in the most intense frost ever known in Paris, it did not descend above fourteen. In other thermometers, the spirit of wine is converted into ice. Even the breath freezes, and the limbs of human bodies often mortify and perish. The lakes and rivers are frozen to an amazing thickness, and the whole face of the country is covered with snow to the depth of several feet. While this continues loose, it is impossible to travel, for by that means the eyes would receive much injury, and, if a strong wind should rise, the traveller would be buried in the drifts of snow. But, should a partial thaw take place for the space of three or four hours, the surface of the snow is formed, by the succeeding frost, into a hard impenetrable crust, over which the Laplander travels in his sledge with

astonishing rapidity. While the thaw prevails, the air is furcharged with vapours, and the climate is rainy; but, while the north wind blows, the sky is beautifully serene, and exhibits the most gorgeous appearance. The bountiful Creator has, however, made a provision for the inhabitants against the severity of winter, by the multitude of animals with which this country is stored, whose skins and furs are so soft and warm, that they not only defend the Laplanders from the most piercing cold, but also preserve them in a very comfortable warmth.

As this is the most northern country on the continent of Europe, the cold must be extreme in the winter; but the rigour of the winter is not more severe than the heats of summer are excessive. At the northern extremity, the sun never sets for three months in summer; and in winter there is an uninterrupted night of the same duration; but this is qualified in such a manner by a constant revolution of dawn and twilight, by a serene sky, moon-light, and aurora-borealis, reflected from the radiancy of the snow, that the inhabitants are enabled to hunt, fish, and proceed with their ordinary occupations.

The soil of Lapland produces hardly any kind of grain, or fruit-trees; but this sterility is not so much owing to the soil, which is in many places of a rich mould, as to want of industry and skill in agriculture. In some districts, the Swedes have tilled and manured pieces of ground, which bear plentiful crops of rye. This country also yields great plenty of berries, such as black currants, what is called the Norwegian mulberry, raspberries, bilberries, cranberries, and juniper-berries. The tops of the mountains are so much exposed to intense cold, and tempests of snow and hail, that no trees are seen near the summits of them; but, in parts more sheltered, we behold woods

woods of birch, pine, and fir, disposed by nature as if they had been planted by art, in rows at regular distances. In some parts are seen the willow, the service-tree, the poplar, the elder, and the cornel. Among the plants of this country is the angelica, which is greatly esteemed by the natives, who use it in their food. The acetosa, or sorrel, found here in great plenty, is also much used by the Laplanders. But the vegetable which is in the greatest plenty, and in the most extensive use among them, is the moschus, or moss; of which species there are many different genera, either adhering to trees, or growing on the surface of the earth. This vegetable is almost the only food of the rein-deer, and which indeed he prefers to any other; he could not even subsist without it. The Laplanders not only use it as a forage to their cattle, but boil it in broth, as a cordial and restorative. From this same vegetable they make a soft, easy, and commodious bed for their new-born children.

This country contains a great number of excellent springs, with some surprising cataracts, in which the water rumbles over frightful precipices, and dashes among rocks with amazing impetuosity, and a tremendous noise.

METALS, MINERALS.

SILVER and lead mines have been discovered in the provinces of Pitha and Lula; and two of copper, together with excellent veins of iron, in the district of Torno. At Skangliware, in the district of Torno, there is a vein of gold and silver mixed, and in the same district another of lead and silver. Some other mines have been found in this country, but they have not been worke

worked to any great advantage. Indeed they can only be worked for a few months in the summer, because the frost impedes the playing of the engines.

Here are found beautiful crystals of a surprising magnitude, so hard and fine, that, when polished, they resemble real diamonds. Lapland also affords amethysts and topazes, but they are pale and cloudy; and a great number of very curious stones, which are too hard to be worked by the tool of the mason. Some of these, found on the banks of lakes and rivers, when they happen to bear any kind of resemblance to the figures of animals, are removed by the Laplanders to more conspicuous places, and adored as deities.

ANIMALS.

LAPLAND, like Norway, is much infested with grey wolves and bears, with which the inhabitants are at perpetual war. The most honourable exploit among the Laplanders is that of killing a bear; and such heroes as have been triumphant in those wars, adorn their caps with a small plate of lead or pewter for every bear they have slain. Here are great quantities of elks, beavers, and otters, who live perfectly unmolested, and find plenty of fish for their subsistence. The black foxes of Lapland are in such estimation for their furs, that one skin will sell at Moscow for twelve golden crowns. The forests of Lapland furnish haunts to a great number of beautiful martens and squirrels; and the latter change their colour every winter from brown to grey. This is the native country of the zibeling, a creature resembling the marten, whose skin, whether black

black or white, if glossy, is extremely valuable, and often given in presents by the Russian ambassadors to the princes at whose courts they reside. Here are ermines, weazels, hares, which grow white in the winter, large black cats, which attend the Laplanders in hunting, and little short-eared curs, trained to the game. But the most remarkable animal is the rein-deer: he is larger and stronger than a stag, and naturally wild; but the Laplanders find means not only to tame him, but to convert him into a beast of burden.

The woods, mountains, and rivers, abound with wild-fowl, and all sorts of aquatic birds that build and breed in northern climates. Early in the spring, the swans go thither in numerous flights from the German ocean; the lapwings follow in such swarms, that they occasion a temporary darkness as they pass along, and scream so loud that they may be heard at the distance of three miles. The rocks and mountains are also frequented by eagles, hawks, falcons, kites, and other birds of prey.

The rivers and lakes of Lapland afford delicious salmon from the Gulph of Bothnia, trout, brook, and perch of exquisite flavour and astonishing magnitude. The Laplanders of Wardhus are plentifully supplied with fish from the northern ocean.

The flies hatched in the morasses and woods in summer, are so numerous, that they often obscure the face of day; so venomous, troublesome, and intolerable, that the rein-deer fly to the tops of the highest mountains for shelter; and the Laplanders repair to the seashore, which is the least infested with these pestilent vermin. The celebrated Maupertuis, in

in the account of his voyage to Lapland, accompanied with other mathematicians sent thither by the French king to measure a degree of the meridian, informs us, that on the tops of the mountains of Torno, the flies were so extremely troublesome, that even the Finland soldiers, who are allowed to be the most hardy troops in the service of Sweden, were obliged to cover their faces with the skirts of their coats, to defend themselves from the attacks of these pernicious insects; which swarmed to such an intolerable degree, that when a piece of flesh appeared, it was instantly blackened all over with them. Some of these flies, which are very large, and have green heads, draw blood whenever they strike. The Laplanders protect themselves in the impenetrable smoke of a large fire, kindled for that purpose; but even this disagreeable expedient was not sufficient to defend the French philosophers: they were obliged, notwithstanding the excessive heat, to wrap up their heads in garments made of the skins of reindeer, and to cover themselves with a thick rampart of fir-boughs; and yet all these precautions proved ineffectual.

LANGUAGE, RELIGION, LAWS, GOVERNMENT.

THE Laplanders speak a very barbarous language which, varies in different parts of the country, according to their intercourse with different nations; such as the Norwegians, Swedes, Finlanders, and Muscovites.

The Laplanders were converted to Christianity, in the last century, by missionaries from Norway, Sweden, and Muscovy. Churches were built in different parts of the country, and supplied with ministers chiefly from Sweden. A public school

was instituted in the town of Pitha, to instruct the Laplandish children in the Christian religion. Gustavus Adolphus and queen Christina also caused translations to be made of the most useful books in the Lapland tongue; such as the catechism, with some prayers, and the manual, containing the psalms of David, the Evangelists, the proverbs of Solomon, &c. The king of Sweden founded another school or college at Liksala, in the province of Uma; but, notwithstanding all these endeavours, the majority of the Laplanders adhere to their ancient idolatry: even those who profess the Christian religion, have blended it strangely with their old heathenish rites, and still retain all their former superstition. They are great observers of times, seasons, and omens; and distinguish a great number of days into black and white; that is, lucky or unfortunate. If they meet in the morning with any particular animal or herd which they reckon a bad omen, they return to their huts, and venture no more abroad on that day. They believe there are fairies, which wander about among rocks, mountains, rivers, and lakes; and give them a share of their devotion. They own one supreme God, whom they arm with thunder-bolts: they make the rainbow his bow, and entertain the same notion of him that the old Pagans did of their Jupiter. They have another subordinate God, to whom they acknowledge to owe all the blessings of life, and never fail to worship him. The sun, which they call Baiwe, is another of their divinities, on account of his influence on the bodies of men and beasts. Their idols are either of stone; or the trunks of trees, rudely carved. All their women are excluded from worship. They believe in a good and evil principle, which they suppose to be at continual variance; and which, according to the

prevalence of either, are productive of happiness or misery to mankind. They also pay great reverence to the manes, or spirits of their departed friends; and dread them extremely, supposing they delight in mischief till they re-animate other bodies; whence it appears that they maintain the doctrine of the metempsychosis, or transmigration of souls. They have implicit faith in magic and divination, and hold pretended magicians in the highest veneration; taking all imaginable means of avoiding their anger. They pretend to prognosticate events by means of figures drawn on drums made for that purpose. Those who live upon the ocean, and the banks of the White Sea, drive a traffic in winds, with such ship-masters as have sufficient credulity to go to market for this commodity.

The Laplanders have prefects or governors sent them from the three powers to which they are subject. In Swedish Lapland, which is the most considerable, the laws of Sweden are observed. There is a tribunal, or court of justice, established for Angermand-Lapmark; a second for Uma, Pitha, and Lula-Lapmark. In each of these a prefect presides, and the priest is his assessor. But these judges have not often an opportunity of exerting their judicial power; for theft, robbery, murder, and adultery, are almost unknown among these people, who are equally ignorant of letters and of vice. They seldom transgress the law, except in the practice of sorcery, which is indeed prohibited on pain of death: still, however, the art of divination by the drum is exercised in secret, both by men and women. The judges have no military troops to enforce their decrees, the people having a remarkable aversion to war.

COMMERCE, REVENUE, STRENGTH.

THE Laplanders export fish, rein-deer, furs, baskets, and toys; with some dried pikes, and cheeses made of the milk of rein-deer. For these they receive rix-dollars, woollen cloths, linen, copper, tin, flour, oil, hides, needles, knives, spirituous liquors, tobacco, and other necessaries. The Laplanders travel in a kind of caravan, with their families, to the Finland and Norway fairs. The revenue arising from this country is very inconsiderable, and the greatest part of it allotted for the maintenance of the clergy. It is paid partly in rix-dollars, but chiefly in furs; and where these cannot be obtained, the tribute is made up in dried pikes. The frightful aspect of this country has been deemed a more effectual defence than bulwarks and garrisons, of which here are none.

POPULATION, CHARACTER, MANNERS, CUSTOMS.

LAPLAND, is but thinly peopled, on account of the general barrenness of the soil: the whole number of its inhabitants is supposed not to exceed sixty thousand. The Laplanders are very low in stature, ill-shaped, and ugly; though strong, hardy, and robust. They will bear incredible fatigue; and it has been remarked, that the stoutest Norwegian is not able to bend the bow of a Laplander. The women are less homely than the men, and many of them have a florid and delicate complexion. The Laplanders are simple, honest, hospitable, and timorous; but their timidity is only with respect

to war; for to many other species of danger they expose themselves with surprising intrepidity, whether in ascending and descending mountains and precipices with their snow-shoes, and in sledges; or in venturing amidst whirlpools and cataracts in little slender boats made of their fir-boards, fastened together with thongs of leather, sinews of wild-beasts, or tough and flexible twigs of willow and osier.

They are more or less civilized as they communicate with strangers, or live among woods and forests, sequestered from all correspondence. The mountaineers feed chiefly on the flesh and the milk of the rein-deer. The flesh is dried in the cold, and of the milk they make cheese. They have neither bread nor salt; but, as a substitute for both, use the inner-rind of the pine-tree, dried, and ground, and dried fish reduced to powder. They also make broth of fish and flesh boiled together; and their usual drink is water heated in a kettle, which in winter hangs continually over the fire. Bear's-flesh, however, is their greatest delicacy, and their usual repast on all great festivals: on these occasions they likewise indulge themselves with brandy, and never think themselves so completely happy as when they can enjoy a pipe of tobacco. These commodities, together with a few cows and sheep for their winter store, the superior class of Laplanders buy in Norway.

The huts of the Laplanders are miserable hovels, composed of rafters joined together, and covered partly with turf, and partly with the boughs or bark of pine-trees, together with a coarse kind of cloth. Each hut is provided with two doors, one smaller than the other. At the smallest, the men sally forth to their hunting or other occupations; but no woman attempts

to make use of this entry, lest she should happen to meet the man at his departure, a circumstance interpreted into a very bad omen. They have neither chimney nor window; but a hole at the top of the habitation answers the double purpose of admitting the light, and letting out the smoke. In these wretched hovels, without convenience or comfort, the people lie promiscuously, like beasts, around the fire, enveloped in a thick impenetrable gloom of acrid smoke, which corrodes their eyes, and renders the atmosphere unfit for respiration. Yet, in all this wretchedness, the poor Laplander is contented with his situation, and enjoys life with some degree of relish. He has his feasts, his exercises, his diversions, and his amours. He is secured in the possession of uninterrupted health by temperance and exercise, which, together with the severity of the climate, brace his nerves to a very unusual pitch of strength, and fortify his constitution in such a manner, that it is common for him to live to the age of an hundred years, without feeling the least pang of disease, or any diminution of his vigour.

The summer dress of the men consists of a long coat of coarse cloth, extending to the middle of the leg, and girded round the waist with a belt or girdle; annexed to which are a Norway knife, and a pouch, containing flints, matches, and tobacco, with other necessaries; the girdle itself being decorated with brass rings and chains. Their caps are made of the skin of the lumme, with the feathers on; and their shoes are composed of the rein-deer skin, with the hair outwards. They wear no linen, but the garments of those who are of a superior class are made of a finer cloth, and generally of a variety of colours; though red, as being the most glaring, is usually

usually most coveted. In winter they are totally cased up in coats, caps, boots, and gloves, made of the rein-deer skin, with the hair inwards. The apparel of the women resembles that of the other sex, but their girdles are more embellished with rings, chains, needle-cases, and toys. In winter both men and women lie in their furs; in summer they cover themselves entirely with coarse blankets to keep off the insects, which would otherwise be intolerable.

The Laplanders are naturally ingenious and make their own furniture, boats, sledges, bows, and arrows. They form neat boxes of thin birch-boards, and inlay them with the horn of the rein-deer. Among their manufactures we may mention curious horn spoons, and moulds in which they cast the tin jewels that decorate their girdles. The men perform the office of cooks, in dressing victuals for the family: the women make cloaths, shoes, and boots, and harness for the rein-deer: they spin thread of fur, and knit it into caps and gloves, which are extremely soft and warm: they draw tin into wire through a horn with which they cover their thread that is used in embroidering the figures of beasts, trees, flowers, and stars, upon their caps and girdles.

The Laplanders provide themselves with a pair of skais or snow-shoes, which are nothing more than fir-boards, covered with the rough skin of the rein-deer, turned in such a manner that the hair rises against the snow, or they would be too slippery.

The Laplander is also provided with a carriage drawn by rein-deer, in which he is much more expeditious in his journies. The Laplanders have great reason to cherish the rein-deer with uncommon regard, as the best gift of providence; for, without subjecting them to the least expence,
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those animals supply them with almost every necessary of life. From them they are furnished with milk and cheese; their flesh furnishes them with delicate food; and the skin affords caps, cloaths, boots, shoes, bedding, thongs, and many other necessities and conveniencies. The nerves and sinews are twisted into thread; their bows and arrows are tipped with the bones; their boxes inlaid with the horn; of which curious spoons, utensils, and toys are also made. The principal occupation of the Laplanders is hunting, which is performed various ways: but the conquest of a bear is the most honourable achievement they can perform; and the flesh of it is considered as the greatest delicacy on earth. The death of this animal is celebrated as a signal victory.

The mode of courtship in Lapland is equally singular and ludicrous: when a young Laplander has pitched upon a female whom he would wish to make his wife, he employs some friends as mediators with the father: these being provided with some bottles of brandy, repair to the father's house, accompanied by the suitor. The mediators are invited to enter, but the lover is left without till the liquor is drank, and the proposal discussed. He is then called in, and entertained with such fare as the hut affords, but has not an opportunity of seeing his mistress, who retires and goes out on this occasion. Having obtained a permission from the parents to make his addresses in person, he cloaths himself in his best apparel, and is admitted to the lady, whom he salutes with a kiss. The lover then presents her with the tongue of a rein-deer, a piece of beaver's flesh, or some other kind of provision. It is the etiquette to decline the offer which is made in the presence of her relations, and to make

make a signal to the lover to follow her into the fields, where she accepts the presents. Thus encouraged, he entreats permission to sleep with her in the hut: if she consents, there is no further difficulty; if she disapproves of his proposal, she drops his presents on the ground. When the lovers are agreed, the youth is permitted to visit the damsel as often as he pleases, but he must not presume to come without a fresh bottle of brandy; a perquisite so agreeable to the father, that he is often induced to postpone the celebration of the nuptials for two or three years. At length the ceremony is performed at church, by the priest of the parish. Even after the marriage, the husband is obliged to serve his father-in-law a whole year; after which he retires to his own habitation with his wife, and her patrimony of rein-deer. The business being thus completed, the husband receives presents from all his friends and relations. From this moment he sequesters his wife from the company of all strangers, especially of the male kind, and watches over her conduct with the most jealous vigilance.

Barrenness prevails among the Lapland women, and none of them are very fruitful. Immediately after delivery, the woman takes a draught of whale fat: the child is washed with snow, or cold water, and wrapped up in a hare-skin. The mother seldom continues above five days in the straw, and in about fourteen she is generally quite recovered. She then carries the child to be baptized, and in her way to the residence of the priest, is often obliged to traverse large forests, mountains, lakes, and wide-extended wastes of snow. The infant is fastened in a hollow piece of wood, stretched naked on a bed of fine moss, covered with the soft skin of a young rein-

and flung by two straps to the back of the mother, who always suckles her own child. At home this little cradle is hung to the roof of the habitation, and the child lulled asleep by swinging it.

Though these people are, in general, vigorous and healthy, they are subject to sore eyes, and even to blindness, from the smoke of their huts, and the fire to which they are almost continually exposed. Some waste away in consumptions: others are afflicted with rheumatic pains and the scurvy; and a few are subject to vertigo and apoplexy. When a Laplander is supposed to be approaching his dissolution, his friends exhort him to die in the faith of Christ. They consider it, however, as an unpleasant office to attend him in his last moments; and, as soon as he expires, quit the place with precipitation, apprehending some injury from his spirit or ghost, which they believe remains with the corpse, and delights in doing mischief to the living. The deceased is wrapped up in woollen or linen, and deposited in a coffin by a person selected for that purpose; who refuses to perform this office, till he is first secured from the ill offices of the manes by a consecrated brass ring fixed on his left arm. Together with the body, they put into the coffin an ax, a flint and steel, a flask of brandy, some venison, and some dried fish. With the ax the deceased is supposed to hew down the bushes or boughs that may obstruct his passage in the other world: the steel and flint are for the purpose of striking a light, should he find himself in the dark at the day of judgment; and they think he may subsist upon the provision during his journey.

The Muscovite Laplanders observe other ceremonies, which have an affinity to the superstitions

stitutions of the Greek church. They not only supply the deceased with money, but send with him a further sum for the porter of Paradise; with a certificate signed by the priest, and directed to St. Peter, setting forth that the bearer had lived like a good Christian, and deserved to be admitted into heaven. At the head of the coffin is placed a little image of St. Nicholas, who is greatly revered in every part of Muscovy as a friend to the dead. Before the interment, the friends of the person who has departed this life kindle a fire of fir-boughs near the coffin, and testify their grief by tears and lamentations, intermingled with groans and hideous howlings; in the course of which the priest occasionally sprinkles the corpse and the mourners alternately with holy water. At length the body is conveyed to the place of interment on a sledge, drawn by a rein-deer. Three days after the funeral, the friends and relations of the departed are invited to an entertainment, where they feast on the flesh of the rein deer which conveyed the corpse to the place of interment. This being a sacrifice to the manes, the bones are collected into a basket, and buried. Two thirds of the effects of the deceased are inherited by his brothers, and the remainder divided among his sisters: but, with regard to immoveables, as land, lakes, mountains, and rivers, they are held in coparceny by all the children of both sexes: according to the division made by Charles IX. of Sweden, when he assigned a certain portion of land to each family.

This country is divided in Danish, Russian, and Swedish Lapland: the first we have taken notice of in our account of Russia: the second in our account of Norway, and the third, which is the

the most considerable of the three, we shall here particularize.

S W E D I S H L A P L A N D.

HAVING taken a general view of Lapland, we now proceed to that part of it which is under the sovereignty of Sweden. We cannot indeed describe the towns of this country, there being, properly, no such thing as a town; but, for the satisfaction of the reader, we shall mention the most considerable places:

ANGERMANLAND-LAPMARK is the most southern province of Lapland, and contains but one place of any note, which is Aofalko. The whole country, however, is interspersed with small villages, though at a very considerable distance from each other.

UNA-LAPMARK, the second province, is situated more northerly; being denominated from the river Una, by which it is traversed from east to west. Near the centre of this province stands the hamlet of Laifby; and another called Semisjerfie, on the confines of Pytha.

PITHA-LAPMARK, or PETA-LAPMARK, the third district or province, is bounded on the west by the Norwegian mountains, by Bothnia on the east, and Lula-Lapmark on the north. It is remarkable for a great number of large lakes, and contains three villages, viz. Sitonia, in the north, near the Dofrine mountains; Arroitzerfs, almost in the centre of the district; and Locktari, near the confines of Bothnia.

LULA-LAPMARK, another province, is situated between the mountains of Norway and Bothnia, north of Pitha-Lapmark, and south of Torno. The rivers which water this district are the Great and Little Lula, which run through several lakes, crossing the Polar Circle, and join near the village of Jackmath, in the south-west part of the district. Towards the north are the villages of Torpajour and Sirkeflucut, situated at the distance of about thirty miles from each other.

TORMO-LAPMARK, or **TORNA-LAPMARK**, is the most northern province of Swedish Lapland, having the Dofrine mountains on the north-west, Lula-Lapmark on the south-west and south, part of Bothnia and Kimi-Lapmark on the east, and Danish Lapland on the north. This territory is watered by several rivers, the chief of which are the Calix, the Torno, and the Kaugis. The most considerable lake of this district is also denominated Torno, and near it stands the village of Tingavara. The other villages in this Lapmark are Rounala and Sandewara, both to the east of Tingavara: and a few miles south of it stands Titisara.

KIMI-LAPMARK, or **KIEMI-LAPMARK**, has Torno-Lapmark on the west, the Gulph of Bothnia on the south, Russian Lapland on the east, and Danish Lapland on the north. The northern part of the province is remarkable for the great lake, called Enure, from which issues a river that runs into the Frozen Sea. The principal places of this district are Somby, Kimibi, and Kalajersui, situated at the foot of the mountains which divide this country from Danish and Mus-

Muscovite Lapland. Solden-Kyli, and Kitijer-fuilye, are more southward; and Kimi stands at the mouth of the river of the same name, on the Gulph of Bothnia.

In the province of Torno, a spring of pure water issues from the mountain Kittis, which, in the severest winters of this severe country, still preserves its fluidity.

LAPMARK, in Lapland, north-west, south, part east, and territory is which are The most so denomi- village of s Lapmark the east of f it stands

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NAME, SITUATION, EXTENT.

SOME derive the name of Denmark from that of an ancient king, called *Dan*, and alledge that Denmark denotes the field or land of king *Dan*. But it is uncertain whether any such king ever existed, unless *Dan Mikillati*, that is *The Haughty*, who is mentioned by the historians of Iceland, and placed in the year of Christ 146, is the person they mean. Others pretend that the river Eider, which separates this kingdom from the empire of Germany, was formerly called *Don*, *Dana*, or *Dena*: and that all the country now called Jutland, which was inhabited by the ancient Danes, was from that river called *Dania*, or Denmark, which name was also applied to the conquered islands.

The ancient *Dania*, or Denmark, properly so called, consists of Jutland, the *Chersonesus Cimbrica* of the ancients, which is part of the continent, and several islands in the Baltic. It is remarkable that, though all these together constitute the king-

kingdom of Denmark, not one of them is separately called by that name. Jutland lies between the fifty-fourth and fifty-ninth degrees of north latitude, and from the eighth to the fifteenth degrees of longitude east from London, extending from south to north above two hundred and twenty-four miles, and not exceeding twenty-four in breadth, in its broadest part. It is washed on the north and west by the German ocean; on the east it is bounded by the Schager-rock, or Categate, and the Middle-fort Sound, or Lesser-Belt; and on the south the river Elbe divides it from the duchies of Bremen and Lunenburg. This part of the continent includes the duchies of Sleswick and Holstein, though the last is a fief of the empire. The other part, which is reckoned the most considerable half of Denmark, is composed of the islands of Zealand, Funen, Langeland, Laland, Falster, Bornholm, Mena, Fermeren, Alsen, Arroë, Samsoë, &c.

AIR, CLIMATE, SOIL.

THE air here is tempered by the vapours from the sea which almost surrounds it. The same neighbourhood contributes to the mitigation of the summer's heat, by ventilating breezes. Spring and autumn are seasons hardly known in Denmark on account of the sudden transitions from cold to heat, and from heat to cold, which distinguish the climate of this kingdom.

A short summer, says Mr. Wraxall, succeeds to the long series of cold and darkness, which environs them from October till April; and, during this period, they often experience very great heats for a few days or sometimes weeks. Certainly man is much affected by physical causes, and we are not surprised that the elegant arts are chiefly

chiefly confined to luxurious and southern climates, and faintly raising their heads amid these snowy and inhospitable regions; where the inhabitants seem in some degree to partake of the asperities of their soil. *Wraxall's Tr.* 22.

In all the northern provinces of Denmark the winters are very severe, the inhabitants often passing arms of the sea in sledges upon the ice; and, during the winter, all their harbours are frozen up. During the months of June, July, and August, the heat is much more intense than in England, and very sultry in the nights; but it is a gloomy heat, and those who look towards the sun may perceive some interposition of thick vapours between them and that enlivening luminary. In Copenhagen, during these three months, the inhabitants are troubled with myriads of flies, which they endeavour to destroy by a poisonous water.

The soil, though in many places mountainous and barren, has good pastures, in which vast herds of cattle are fed, and an excellent race of horses bred. The mountains here, as in other places, are barren, and the vallies fertile; but the soil in the islands is generally sandy, and requires frequent rains to produce even tolerable crops of rye. The greatest part of the lands in Denmark and Holstein are fiefs of the ancient nobility, by grants from the crown, in consequence of which they gained such a power over the farmers, and those who resided upon their estates, that at length they reduced them to a state of extreme slavery; insomuch that they were bought and sold with the lands, and were esteemed the property of their lords. Many of the noble land-holders in Sleswick and Holstein, have the power of life and death. The situation of the farmer has, indeed, been made somewhat more

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agreeable by some modern edicts ; but they may still be considered as chained to their farms, and are disposed of at the will of their lords.

But the present attention of the Danish government to the state of the peasantry, is highly commendable. The amiable prince of Denmark, who may be regarded as the regent of the kingdom, is about to abolish the feudal services. To give an example, the king and the prince have commenced the reformation on their personal estates, which are parcelled out at very moderate prices to the tenants, now free-holders instead of slaves.

ANIMAL PRODUCTIONS, MOUNTAINS, RIVERS, LAKES, FORESTS.

THIS country produces an excellent breed of horses, both for the saddle and carriage, about five thousand of which are annually sold out of the country. The Danes also breed vast herds of black cattle, flocks of sheep, and hogs. But the cattle are small and meagre, except in the summer, and then the beef is sweet and juicy. The woods and forests are inhabited by stags, elks, boars, and hares, with all the quadrupeds found in milder countries. Here is great plenty of poultry and wild-fowl ; and the sea swarms with a variety of fish.

Though Jutland contains a great many barren mountains, the interjacent vallies abound with excellent pasturage : the country in general produces but little corn, partly on account of the sterility of the soil, but principally from the discouragement of agriculture, by depriving the husbandmen of the advantages which ought to reward him for his skill and labour. It has been

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observed as a natural defect in Denmark, that the king has not, in all his dominions, one navigable river for vessels of any considerable burden: the Eider indeed cannot be considered as coming under that description; and the Elbe is rather to be reckoned one of the confines and boundaries of his sovereignty than as a part of it. The Eider rises near Segeberg, passes by Rendsbourg, and falls into the sea at Tönningen, after having divided Sleswick from Holstein. In the continental part of the kingdom there are some fresh-water-lakes well furnished with delicious fish, and plenty of pure rivulets and fountains. The fresh-water of the islands, however, is foul and disagreeable. The face of the country is well-shaded with large forests, well stocked with a variety of game: but, notwithstanding the maritime situation of this kingdom, there is not, either on the continent or the islands, one tolerable harbour, except that of Copenhagen, which is indeed an excellent sea-port.

CONSTITUTION, GOVERNMENT, PUNISHMENTS.

THE ancient form of government, in this country, was the same which the Goths and Vandals established in most of those parts of Europe whither they carried their conquests. Denmark therefore was, till within one hundred and thirty years, governed by a king, who was chosen by the people of all classes: even the boors had their voices; which king Waldemar III. who reigned in 1334, acknowledged, in that memorable answer of his to the pope's nuncio, who pretended to have great power over him:—"Our being we have from God, our kingdom from our subjects, our riches from our parents, and our religion from

from the church of Rome; and, if you grudge it us, we renounce it by these presents."

The convention of the states, even including the representatives of the boors and peasants, elected a king for his personal virtues, having still a regard to the son of their late monarch; though they did not scruple to set him aside, if they deemed him unworthy of the royal dignity. They enacted laws, conferred the great offices of state, debated all affairs relating to commerce, peace, war, and alliances, and occasionally gave their consent to the imposition of necessary taxes. The king was no other than chief magistrate, generalissimo, and a kind of prime minister to his people.

Such was the constitution of Denmark till 1660, when it underwent a surprising revolution. At the conclusion of the peace with Sweden, the nation resounded with the clamour of misery and discontent. Violent disputes ensued: at length a nobleman of the name of Otto Craeg stood up, and, in a transport of passion, told the commons that they neither understood the privileges of the nobility, who were always exempted from such impositions, nor the condition of themselves, who were no other than their *slaves*. This inglorious term produced an immediate ferment in the assembly: and the hall resounded with murmurs and altercation. Nanson, speaker of the commons, starting up in a rage of indignation, swore that the nobility should repent their having branded the commons with such an opprobrious epithet. The assembly broke up in a ferment; and the commons, with the clergy, withdrew to a house of their own, where they resolved to make the king a solemn tender of their liberties and services, and formally to establish in his family the hereditary succession to their crown. The

king accepted of their tender, promising them relief and protection. The gates of Cöpenhagen were shut, and the nobility were obliged to submit, with the best grace they could, to a confirmation of what had been done. In consequence of which, on the 16th of October, 1660, the king, queen, and royal family, ascended an open theatre, and, placing themselves on chairs of state, under canopies of velvet, received in public the homage of all the senators, nobility, clergy, and commons, couched in an oath of allegiance prepared for the purpose.

On the 10th of January, 1661, the three orders of nobility, clergy, and people, signed each a separate act; by which they consented that the crown should be hereditary in the royal family, as well as in the female as the male line; and by which they invested the king with absolute power; enabling him to regulate the succession and the regency, in case of minority. This renunciation of their rights, subscribed by the first nobility, is still preserved as a precious relique, among the archives of the royal family. Thus the people, from rash motives of revenge, resigned their liberty and independence, and invested their sovereign with a despotic power over their lives and fortunes. The king of Denmark is now so absolute, that he can impose what tolls and taxes he may think convenient; and, by a maxim in the present jurisprudence of that nation, he enjoys the prerogative of explaining the law, and even of altering it occasionally.

The laws of Denmark are just, equitable, perspicuous, and so concise, that the whole body is contained in one quarto volume, written in the language of the country. There are three courts, and an appeal lies from the inferior to the superior tribunal. The common method of execution

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In Denmark is hanging and beheading: in some cases, as an aggravation of the punishment, the hand is chopped off before the other part of the sentence is executed. For the most atrocious offences, such as the murder of a father or mother, husband or wife, and robbery on the highway, the malefactor is broken upon the wheel. But robbery on the highway, burglary, or coining, are crimes seldom heard of in Denmark. Capital punishments are not indeed very common here; those which are principally inflicted being whipping, branding on the face, confinement in the rasp-house, and houses of correction, with imprisonment and hard labour.

LANGUAGE, LEARNING, RELIGION.

THE Danish language is a dialect of the Teutonic, bearing a strong affinity to the Norwegian tongue; but the High Dutch is used in common discourse, by the court, the gentry, and the burghers. French is also spoken fluently by people of rank, who have lately made great advances in the English, which is now publicly taught at Copenhagen, as a necessary part of education.

The state of literature is low in Denmark: there is indeed an university at Copenhagen, but it is not liberally endowed, nor is it supplied with good masters. Taste and the *Belles Lettres* are utterly unknown in this country, though it has produced some men of great eminence in mathematics and medicine; such as Tycho Brahe, Borrichius, and the Bartholines.

In the museum, at Copenhagen, is now kept, among the greatest and most valuable curiosities, the chair in which Tycho Brahe was used to sit, when

when he made his astronomical observations at Uranibourg. The wood, which composes it, is held in reverence, and preserved with the greatest care, as having belonged to so great a man. *Wraxall's Tr.* 38.

The Lutheran doctrine is universally embraced through all Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. Denmark is divided into six dioceses; one in Zealand, one in Funen, and four in Jutland: These dioceses are governed by bishops, whose profession is entirely to superintend the other clergy; nor have they any other mark of pre-eminency than a distinction of their ecclesiastical dress; for they have neither cathedral nor ecclesiastical courts, nor the smallest concern with civil affairs; their morals, however, are so exemplary, that they are revered by the public. The revenue of the bishop of Copenhagen amounts to about two thousand rix-dollars, (less than five hundred pounds sterling) and is the richest benefice in the kingdom. The clergy are paid by the state, the church lands being appropriated to the government at the Reformation.

POPULATION, MANNERS, CUSTOMS.

BY an actual numeration, made a few years ago, of his Danish majesty's subjects, in his dominions of Denmark, Norway, and Holstein, the islands in the Baltic, and the countries of Oldenburg and Delmenhorst, in Westphalia, they amounted to two millions four hundred and forty-four thousand, exclusive of the Icelanders and Greenlanders. However disproportioned this number may seem to the extent of his Danish majesty's dominions, yet, every thing considered, it

it is greater than could have been expected from the uncultivated state of his possessions.

The nobility and gentry of Denmark are all included in the term noblesse, and formerly there were no distinctions of title; but, within these eighty years, some few favourites have been dignified with the titles of count and baron. These, and these only, have the privilege of disposing of their estates by will, otherwise than in the manner which the law directs. Others, indeed, may make particular dispositions, provided they have sufficient interest to procure the king's approbation and signature. Formerly the Danish nobility lived at their own seats, with great magnificence and hospitality; and, at the convention of the states, met their king with numerous and superb retinues: but, since he became absolute, their condition is far from being enviable. They are so impoverished, by exorbitant taxes, that they can hardly procure the means of subsistence; and, generally speaking, live obscurely in some corner of their ruined country palaces, if they have not interest enough at court to obtain a civil or military employment. For this purpose they exert all their industry, influence, and address, that their estates may be sheltered from the exactions of collectors, and that they may be enabled to defray the expence of their living. They no longer inherit the spirit and virtues of their ancestors, but are become servile, indolent, ostentatious, extravagant, and oppressive.

The general character of the Danes is a strange composition of pride, and meanness, insolence and poverty. If any gentleman can find a purchaser for his estate, the king, by the Danish law, has a right to a third of the purchase-money; but the lands are so burthened with impositions, that,
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even without this restriction, he stands but little chance of being a seller.

Those courtiers who derive money from their employments, instead of purchasing lands in Denmark, remit their cash to the banks of Hamburg and Amsterdam. The merchant and the burgher treads in the footsteps of their superiors: they spend all their gain in luxury and pleasure, with an impatient avidity, fearing to incur the suspicion of affluence and of being stripped by taxation. The peasant or boor, influenced by similar motives, no sooner gets possession of a rix-dollar, than he hastens to expend it in brandy; naturally expecting that it would otherwise fall into the hands of his oppressive landlord.

The lower class of people are abject slaves. The value of estates is not ascertained by the richness of the soil, or the number of acres, but by the stock of boors, who, like the timber, are considered as part of the free-hold. They feed upon stock-fish, salted meats, and diet of the coarsest kind: there is not the least piece of furniture, of any value, in their houses, except feather-beds, which indeed are excellent, and in great plenty in Denmark. After the boor has diligently toiled to raise the taxes for the king, he must give the overplus of his labour to his needy landlord.

The peasants also sustain great damage and violence from the licentious soldiers, who are quartered at their houses.

The ancient inhabitants of Denmark possessed a degree of courage, which approached even to ferocity; but, by a continued series of tyranny and oppression, their national character is much changed; and, from a brave, enterprising, and warlike people, they are become indolent, timid, and dull of apprehension. Those of any rank
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above the common people, dress in the French taste, and affect finery; but the winter dress of the ladies is peculiar to the country, very neat, warm, and becoming.

A very late traveller informs us, that he did not see above three or four very handsome or very elegant women in Copenhagen; and that he does not think them, in general, to be compared for loveliness with our own women. *Wraxall's Tr.*

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The common people are also very neat, and pride themselves in different changes of linen. The Danes, like other northern nations, are given to intemperance in drinking and convivial entertainments. Their diversions are very few: their whole amusements consisting in running at the goose on Shrove-Tuesday, and in being drawn in sledges on the ice, during winter. They also feast and make merry at their weddings, and their funerals.

ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

TO Denmark belong two orders of knight-hood: that of the Elephant, and that of Danebrug: the badge of the former, which is the most honourable, is an elephant surmounted with a castle, set in diamonds, and suspended to a sky-coloured watered ribbon, worn like the George in England. This order was instituted by Christian I. at his son's wedding, and is conferred only on those of the highest quality, and the most extraordinary merit. The order of Danebrug is so ancient that the origin of it is lost in fable: it is bestowed as an honorary reward on the noblesse of inferior rank, who have distinguished themselves in the service. Its insignia consists of a

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white ribbon, with red edges worn over the left shoulder, from which depends a small cross of diamonds, and an embroidered star on the breast of the coat, surrounded with the motto *Pietate & Justitia*.

COMMERCE, ARMY, NAVY, REVENUE.

THIS kingdom is well situated for commerce, and her mariners are very expert in the navigation of the different parts of the ocean. The dominions of his Danish majesty also supply a great variety of timber, and other materials for ship-building; and some of his provinces afford many natural productions for exportation. Among these, besides fir and other timber, are black cattle, horses, butter, stock-fish, hides, tallow, train-oil, pitch, tar, and iron; all which may be ranked under the head of exports. To these we may add furs; but the exportation of oats is prohibited. The imports are brandy, wine, salt, and silk from France, Portugal, and Italy. The Danes have lately had great intercourse with England, from whence they import broad-cloth, clocks, cabinet and lock-work; with all other manufactures carried on in the great trading towns of England.

In the last century few manufactures were carried on in Denmark, for they were first introduced by Frederic IV. and Christian VI. There are artists of skill in Copenhagen; and at present several branches of the mechanic arts are well executed in Denmark. Gold and silver lace, velvets, silk, stuffs, cloths, cotton and woollen-stuffs, tapestry, stockings, hats, porcelaine, and fire-arms, are also manufactured in this kingdom. Here are also paper and copper-mills, and silk and cotton printing

printing-houses, with manufactures of soap, starch, glue, lacker, steel, tobacco, sugar, &c. The lace of Tondern, and the gloves of Randers and Odense, are well known and esteemed.

The present military force of Denmark consists of seventy thousand men, cavalry and infantry; the greatest part of which are composed of a militia, who receive no pay, but are registered on the army list, and exercised every Sunday. The regular troops are about twenty thousand, and chiefly foreigners, or most of them are officered by foreigners; for Frederic III. was too refined a politician to trust his security in the hands of those he had tricked out of their liberty. Though the army is extremely burthensome to the nation, it costs little to the crown. Great part of the infantry lie in Norway, where they live upon the boors at free quarter; and, in Denmark, the peasantry are obliged to maintain the cavalry in victuals and lodgings, and to allow each of them about six shillings a month; half of which is received by the colonel to defray the expence of mounting the men.

The navy of Denmark is respectable. This fleet is generally stationed at Copenhagen, which is furnished with dock-yards, store-houses, and all the materials necessary for the use of the marine. They have twenty-six thousand registered seamen, who cannot quit the kingdom without leave, nor serve on board a merchant ship without permission from the admiralty: four thousand of these are kept in constant pay, and employed in the dock-yards: their pay, however, is very inconsiderable, but they have a sort of uniform, with lodgings and some provisions allowed for themselves and families. The Danes are tolerable navigators; but their best seamen are natives of Norway.

The revenues of his Danish majesty arise from the taxes and impositions laid on his own subjects, the

duties paid by foreigners, and his own demefne lands, including confiscations. The taxes are entirely arbitrary, and therefore fluctuating; but they are always grievous to the subject. They generally confift of customs, or toll, for imports and exports; of excife on the confumption of wine, falt, tobacco, and provifions of all kinds; of taxes upon marriages, paper, brewing, grinding, and the exercife of different professions; or impositions laid on land, poll-money, and ground rent for all houfes; money to be raifed for maintaining fortifications.

The tolls paid by ftrangers arife chiefly from foreign fhips, which pafs through the Sound into the Baltic, through the narrow ftraight of half a mile between Schonen and the ifland of Zealand. Thefe tolls are in proportion to the fize of the fhip, and value of the cargo, exhibited in bills of lading. This tax, which is a confiderable article in the revenue of Denmark, has more than once fet the northern parts of Europe in a flame. It has often been difputed by the Englifh and Dutch, and the Swedes for fome time refufed to pay it: but, in the treaty of 1720, between Sweden and Denmark, the Swedes agreed to pay fuch rates as are paid by the fubjects of Great-Britain and the Netherlands. The toll is paid at Elfinoor, a town fituated on the Sound, at the entrance of the Baltic, about eighteen miles diftant from Copenhagen. The whole revenue of Denmark, including what is received at Elfinoor, amounts at prefent to the annual fum of five millions of rix-dollars, or one million two thoufand pounds fterling.

COIN, TITLE.

THE right of coinage has been vested in the crown, since the reign of Frederic III. The current coins in Denmark are, a fyrk of copper, two of which make a schilling; and two of the latter are equal to one schilling lub, or a stiver. A dutgen is equal to three stivers, or six schillings Danish. A mark Danish is equal to sixteen schillings, or half a mark lub. A half-crown, called also one mark-piece, makes two marks Danish, or one mark lub. A crown is equal to two half-crowns. There are also double crowns in Denmark. Rix-dollars and ducats pass at the usual value, excepting the new current ducats, which hardly make two rix-dollars, and seldom exceed eleven marks. Five Danish rix-dollars are equal to one pound sterling. As to the intrinsic value of the silver coin, from one mark, which is eight ounces of pure silver, thirty-four current marks lub are coined.

There is, however, a great scarcity of specie in Denmark. I have seen, says Mr. Wraxall, no gold, and hardly any silver. They pay every thing in paper, and if you lose a single dollar at the card-table or the billiard-table, it is given in a bill. I received two hundred rix-dollars yesterday morning, and not a single one in money. *Wraxall's Tr.* 24.

His Danish majesty's title is—"Christian VII. by the Grace of God, king of Denmark and Norway, of the Vandals and Goths, duke of Sleswick, Holstein, Storman, and Ditmarsch, count of Oldenburg and Delmenhorst."

JUT-

J U T L A N D.

HAVING treated of the Country in general, we shall now specify the several members which compose the kingdom of Denmark. Its continental territories include Jutland, Sleswick, and Holstein; but, as the last is a fief of the empire, we have included it in our description of Germany. The peninsula of Jutland, in Latin *Jutia*, was called *Cimbria*, or *Chersonesus Cimbrica* by the ancients; to whom it was well known, as appears from Tacitus and Pliny. We learn from Homer, that the ancient Greeks conceived a dismal idea of the state of the inhabitants of this country; for they erroneously supposed that the sun never gladdened them with its beams. Jutland, or *Julia Septentrionalis*, is washed on the north and west by the German ocean; on the east and north-east it is bounded by the Lesser Belt, the Baltic, and the Categate; and on the south by the duchy of Sleswick. It is divided into four dioceses, namely, Ripen to the south, Arhusan to the east, Aalborg to the north, and Wibourg in the centre. The most considerable places are

RIPEN, the capital of the diocese of the same name, said to have been built about the time that Christianity was first introduced into this kingdom. It is situated on the river Nipsaw, and was formerly one of the most celebrated and flourishing cities in the north. Here are two churches, exclusive of the cathedral which is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Ripen, which is a place of good trade, is governed by two burgomasters and a senate, and contains two public schools,

schools, a college for divinity, and a public library.

COLDING, a town on the river Aa, principally remarkable for its bridge, over which all the black cattle and horses, driven from Jutland to Sleswick, must pass and pay a toll; which constitutes a considerable article in the revenue of his Danish majesty. It has two churches, a rich hospital, and a grammar school. The air here is mild and healthy, which induced king Christian III. to make it his usual residence. When Copenhagen was visited by the plague, in 1712, Frederic IV. with the whole royal family, retired to this place.

The smaller towns in this diocese, are Frederics-Ode, Ringcoping, Weille, Ward, Lemwick, Hoftebro, and Jelling.

AARHUUS, or **AARHUSEN**, the capital of the diocese of Arhusen, situated in a fine plain near the Categate, at the mouth of the river Gude. It is a large, populous, flourishing town, with a commodious harbour. It has six gates, two market-places, two churches, a chapel of ease, an episcopal palace, a cathedral school, and a well-endowed hospital.

The smaller towns in the diocese of Arhusen, are Randers, Scanderborg, Hersens, Ebelstadt, Mariager, Hodroe, and Rye.

WIBOURG, or **VIBORG**, the capital of the diocese of the same name, and of all Jutland. It is one of the most ancient cities in the kingdom, and was formerly so large and opulent, that, before the reformation, it contained twelve churches and six convents. It is still a place of great resort on account of its being a seat of judicature,

judicature, to which appeals are made from inferior tribunals. It continues to be the see of a bishop, though he and his chapters are of the Augsbург confession. The episcopal or cathedral school, founded by George Friis, the last Popish bishop of this see, has six masters with handsome salaries, and a royal foundation for poor scholars. The ancient kings of Denmark received the homage of the states in this town. The great Easter-Snapsting, or fair, which begins on the 26th of April, and lasts a fortnight, is no small advantage to this city.

AALBURG, the capital of the diocese of Aalborg, situated on the south side of the gulph of Limford, on the borders of the diocese of Wibourg. It is a large, populous, ancient city, and, next to Copenhagen, the most opulent and well-built in the whole kingdom. Its situation being low, it is watered with two streams passing through it, which are called the East and the West River. Here are two parish churches, and the same number of alms-houses, with a cathedral school, a royal palace, an episcopal palace, an exchange, and a good harbour. A great quantity of herrings and grain is exposed from this city, which has also a good trade in musquets, pistols, saddles, and gloves.

This diocese also contains the small towns of Schagen, Nicropingis, Tyfted, Sabye, and Hiorring.

The most considerable islands belonging to Jutland are Lessow and Samsøe, both of which are tolerably fertile, and pretty well-peopled by hunters and fishermen.

THE DUCHY OF SLESWICK.

THIS territory derives its name from Schleswig or Sleswick, the capital, but is frequently termed South Jutland in history, especially by ancient writers. Part of it formerly belonged to the duke of Holstein-Gottorp, from whose house the reigning family of Denmark is descended: but now the king of Denmark possesses the whole. It has Jutland, or North Jutland, on the north; on the east it is bounded by the Baltic; on the south by the duchy of Holstein; and on the west by the German ocean.

It is about eighty miles in length, and sixty in breadth: being well watered with rivers, which fertilize the soil, and supply the inhabitants with large quantities of fish. Corn and cattle are very plentiful in this territory, which is divided into the four circles of Hadersleben, Tonderen, Flenzburg and Gottorp. The principal places which they contain are

SLESWICK, or SCHLESWIG, the capital of the duchy, situated on an arm of the sea, called the gulph of Schey. It was formerly a very opulent considerable city, and the see of a bishop; but in 1713, when the ducal court was removed from Sleswick, it fell to decay. In the Old Town there is but one church, which is the cathedral, dedicated to St. Peter, a very grand structure; in the choir of which are the tombs of Frederic I. and his two queens. Not far from the cathedral is the orphan-house: and on the great market-place stand the town-house and the Grey-Friars' convent. On the east side of the town lies the

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Holm,

Holm, as it is called, where the famous convent of St. John is situated, which was founded for ladies of noble families. At the distance of a few miles from this city, appear the ruins of the famous wall or rampart, called Danewark; which the Danes, in ancient times, built from sea to sea, as a bulwark against the incursions of the Saxons.

GOTTORP, or GOTTORFF, the ancient seat and patrimony of the dukes of Hölstein, the chief branch of which family, after the royal one, took from thence the title or surname of *Gottorp*. This famous palace is built in the middle of a small lake, fortified with four bastions. The magnificence of the building, the long bridge thrown over the lake, the garden diversified and adorned with terraces, walks, arbours, parterres, orangeries, nurseries, summer-houses, fish-ponds, basins, water-works, cascades, and statues, render it the most noble and delightful habitation in the northern part of Europe.

Eckrenford, Frederickstadt, Toningen, Husum, Flenchburgt and Arpenrade, are pretty considerable places.

The smaller towns in this duchy, are Glucksborg, Haderleben, Tunde, and Lohm-Closter.

To SLESWICK belong several ISLANDS, both in the ocean and in the Baltic. Of the former the chief are Northstrand, Amron, Forø, Sylt, Rom, and Manøe. On the coast of the Baltic are two islands depending upon Sleswick, named Alsø, and Arøe. But the principal islands which compose this kingdom, are as follow:

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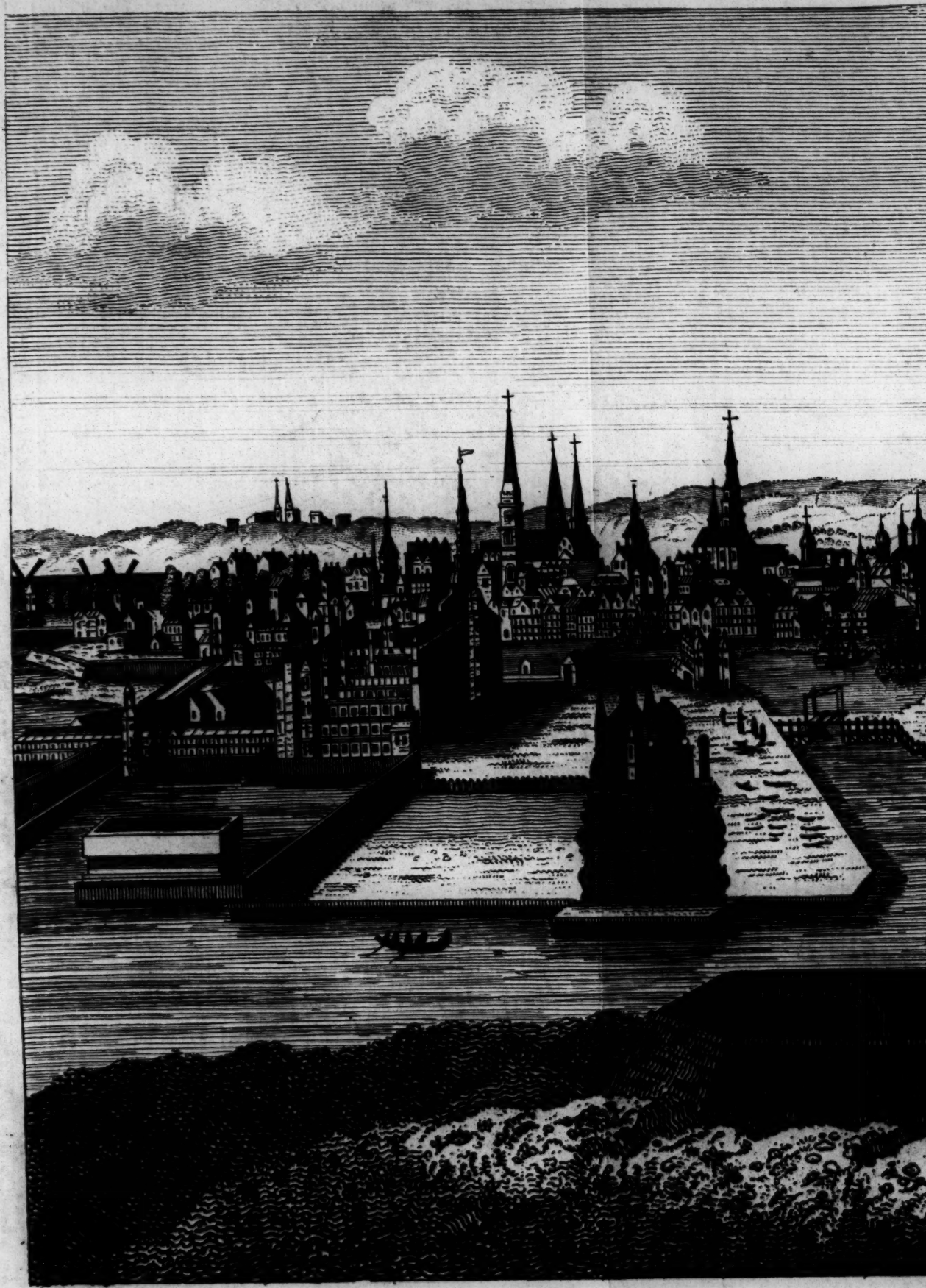
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View of the City



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THE ISLAND OF ZEALAND.

ZEALAND, or SEELAND, is the most fertile and extensive island in the Baltic : it is bounded on the north by the Categate and Schagar-rack ; on the east by the Sound, which divides it from Schonen : on the west by the Greater Belt, that separates it from Funen ; and on the south by the islands of Moon, Falster, and Laland. Its length from east to west is sixty-eight miles, and its breadth about sixty. The land is generally level, and extremely fertile, and the woods and forests abound with game. The coast is indented by gulphs, bays, and inlets, affording commodious harbours ; by means of which a considerable trade might be carried on by the natives ; but they are in general dispirited, dull, and inactive. Though the air is pretty thick, on account of the vapours which rise from the sea, yet it is wholesome ; many of the inhabitants living to a very great age.

This island is divided into twenty-six bailiwicks, called Herrits : these contain three hundred and forty-six parishes, and some considerable cities, particularly

COPENHAGEN, in Latin *Copenhaga*, in Danish *Kiøbenhavn*, and in Dutch *Kopenhagen*, the chief of the island, the capital of the whole kingdom, and the residence of the king. It is thus called from its safe and commodious harbour, which is sheltered by the island of Amack, its name signifying the merchant's port. It is one hundred and eighteen miles north-east of Sleswick, one hundred and fifty-two north-east of Hamburgh, two hundred and ninety south-west of

Stockholm, three hundred and forty north-east of Amsterdam, five hundred and eighty north-east of Paris, and five hundred and sixty north-east of London. Its situation is marshy and low; but, on the land side, there are several beautiful lakes, which furnish the inhabitants with plenty of fresh water.

The city makes a magnificent appearance at a distance. It contains four royal castles, ten parish, and nine other churches, a considerable number of public and private palaces, upwards of four thousand burghers' houses, several of which are inhabited by ten or more families, eleven market and public places, areas, or squares, and one hundred and eighty-six streets according to the most modern computation.

The palace of Rosenbourg was constructed, as I am assured, by our celebrated Inigo Jones, and stands in the middle of a large garden. It is small, and now very little used by the king or royal family. There is an air of antiquity in all the apartments, tapestry, and furniture, which is not displeasing, and impresses with respect. The hangings, which are not ill executed, represent the various actions by sea and land, which diversified the ancient war between the Swedes and Danes; who seem always to have had the same national rivalry and animosity, which the French and English are distinguished for, and which they perhaps ever will, in some degree, retain. The gardens of this palace constitute one of the chief diversions of the city, as they are always open, and on festivals or Sundays are crowded with company. They are large, but not laid out with taste or adorned with any productions of art, one statue only excepted of Hercules vanquishing the Næmean lion. The palace of Heresholm, the most magnificent and spacious

cious of any, was built by Christian the VIth. It was the favourite residence of the court during queen Matilda's stay, *Wraxall's Tr.* 73.

This city is divided into three principal parts: Old Copenhagen, New Copenhagen, and Christianshafen. The two last, being more modern than the first, are laid out in broad streets running in a straight line. Even in Old Copenhagen, since the last great fire, the streets are of a sufficient breadth; but the windings could not be entirely avoided. The expence this city is at in keeping the streets clean, amounts yearly to about twelve thousand rix-dollars; and in the night the streets are illuminated with lanterns. The houses in the principal streets and areas are almost entirely built with brick; but, in the lanes, most of the habitations are of timber. Upon the whole, they make so fine an appearance, that Copenhagen may be looked upon as one of the most beautiful and magnificent cities in Europe.

In some parts of the town there are deep canals, into which large ships may enter, and be laden and unladen quite close to the houses and warehouses. Besides the three general divisions above-mentioned, the city is divided into twelve quarters, and the burghers into as many companies, which have all their particular colours. The west and east quarter of St. Anne make but one company, and the fire company constitutes the twelfth. The principal places in the several quarters are the German church, dedicated to St. Peter; the Walkendorf college; the Great Wartow hospital, a noble foundation for the poor, containing three hundred beds for the sick and distressed, who are also allowed each half a rix-dollar a week; St. Mary's church, where the bishops of both kingdoms are usually consecrated, the tower of which is reckoned the noblest in Copenhagen;

penhagen; the university, founded by Christian I. in 1478, and restored by Christian III. the royal college founded by Christian IV. in 1618; the Borrician college, a most elegant and well-endowed foundation; the magnificent, new, and royal palace of Christiansburg, finished in 1740, the second or royal story of which is adorned with all the magnificence and elegance imaginable; the royal chapel of this palace is also beautiful and superb. The chancery joins the palace by means of a corridor, or covered gallery, and is a very magnificent structure. The exchange is a grand edifice in the Gothic taste.

The entrance to the harbour is so narrow as to deny admittance to more than one ship at a time, and this passage is secured every night with a strong boom: the mouth of it is commanded by the citadel on one side, and a block-house on the other, well furnished with artillery. Five hundred sail of ships may ride at ease in the harbour, secure alike from the weather and the enemy. Here the royal navy of Denmark may be seen, each ship riding in its proper birth or station; and round the whole inclosure, a wooden gallery projects over the water. The external road affords good anchorage, being fenced from the sea by a large sand-bank; the shallows of which are distinguished by two floating buoys.

The police of Copenhagen, says Mr. Wraxall, is exceedingly good: a person may walk through the whole city at midnight with the most perfect safety: no robberies, no assassinations are heard of. They wear no cloaks, nor conceal any stillatoes under their habits, as in the southern parts of Europe. Indeed, it is almost usually as quiet here at eleven o'clock at night, as in a country village, and hardly a coach rattles through the streets. I do not apprehend this capital can be above the
fourth

fourth part of the size of London, perhaps not so much. It is fortified towards the land by a fosse, always full of water. The streets are commonly of a good breadth, and the houses very neat and handsome. There is one very beautiful place here, which approaches nearer to a circus than a square, each side or division of which is only one palace, and in the centre is an equestrian statue of the late king Frederic the Vth. I must own I was much more pleased with this, than with the Place de Victoires at Paris, and think it has a much better effect. *Wraxall's Tr.* 35.

The isle of Amack renders the harbour secure, because it breaks the waves, and stops the high surges of the sea. The harbour is so excellent, that, were Copenhagen a free city, it would doubtless be the mart and staple of all the traffic of the Baltic. The isle of Amack is separated from Zealand by a canal, but has a communication with it by several bridges, without obstructing the passage of the ships that sail in and out. Copenhagen is of a round form, which is chiefly owing to a circuit of fortifications, and contains about thirty-five thousand inhabitants. That Copenhagen is well fortified by nature and art, the three long and severe sieges which it sustained under Frederic I. Christian III. and Frederic III. are a sufficient proof: but its fortifications at those periods, compared with its present strength, were very inconsiderable.

Mr. Wraxall informs us, that so few persons visit this metropolis, or kingdom, from motives of curiosity, that the inhabitants were quite surprised when he assured them that he had no sort of business there, and was only employed in the search of knowledge. *Wraxall's Tr.* 23.

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There is no face of industry or business here; Copenhagen, though one of the finest ports in the world, can boast of little commerce. The public places are filled with officers either in the land or sea-service, and they appear to constitute three-fourths of the audience at the comedy and the opera. The number of forces is indeed much too large for this little kingdom, which has not been engaged in war these fifty years. They can boast, it is true, a vast extent of dominions; but of what importance are the barren and almost uninhabited mountains of Norway and Lapland, stretching to the Pole: or the plains of Iceland, where the inhabitants are yet, and will probably ever remain, in the most profound barbarism. Their German dominions in Holstein are by far the most rich, and furnish a large part of the royal revenue. *Wraxall's Tr.* 24.

ELSINOOR, the richest and most elegant town in Zealand, except Copenhagen, about twenty miles north of that city. It is situated on the Oeresund, or Sound encompassed with walls, and particularly defended by the strong fortress of Cronsberg which commands one side of the Sound. This castle, which was formerly very strong, spacious, and magnificent, was built by Frederic II. out of his own private revenue. Every ship that passes this straight must strike sail at Cronsberg, and come to the town to compound for the custom, under the penalty of forfeiting the vessel and cargo.

Whether this fortress (says Mr. Wraxall) would be able to prevent a fleet of men of war from passing it, I much question; it is a fine Gothic chateau, or palace built early in the last century by Christian IV. and was then often honoured

noured with the royal residence. It is of a square form, and within is a fine quadrangle. The turrets at the corners are very superb, and in the most improved style of Gothic architecture. They shewed me several large apartments, which are still denominated the king's: there is nothing, however, in them, except some gilt leather chairs, of equal antiquity with the castle, and several daubings of their kings prancing about on white steeds. Queen Matilda was confined in this castle. *Wraxall's Tr.* 7.

The king's custom-house at Elsinoor is a fine new edifice. It also contains two parish churches, and a grammar school.

Opposite to Elsinoor appears the island of Huen, rising like a hill in the middle of the sea, and commanding a prospect over all the neighbouring country. Upon this island the famous Tycho Brahe built the castle of Uraniburg, and his observatory. Frederic II. gave him the island for life as a commodious spot for his purpose; the air being generally free from fogs, and the sky perfectly serene. After having finished Uraniburg, in such a manner as to be deemed the most curious edifice in the world, Tycho Brahe built another house on the southern part of the island, and gave it the appellation of Stelburg. Both these structures were completely provided with all the instruments and apparatus necessary in the different researches of astronomy; and he was enabled to pay the expence by a pension of two thousand golden crowns, a considerable fief in Norway, and a prebend in the church of Roschild. Uranibourg is now in ruins and the island belongs to the Swedes.

FREDERICSBURG, a town rendered remarkable by the castle and royal palace in its neighbourhood, esteemed the Versailles of Denmark.

This palace is a very large chateau, moated round with a triple ditch, and calculated, like all the ancient residences of princes, for defence against an enemy. It was built by Christian the IVth. and, according to the architecture of the times, partakes of the Greek and Gothic styles. In the front of the grand quadrangle, appear Tuscan and Doric pillars; and on the summit of the building are the spires and turrets. It is at present very little visited, and his present majesty even altered the ceremony of the coronation, which was always performed at this palace by his predecessors. He was crowned in Copenhagen; the expence and unfitness of the apartments at present for the reception of the nobility and court, were the reasons assigned for this choice. Some of the rooms are very splendid, though furnished in the antique tastes. The knights hall is of a great length; the tapestry represents the wars of Denmark, and the cieling is one of the most minute and laboured performances of sculpture I ever saw. Queen Matilda spent much of her time at this place, during the king's tour through Europe. *Wraxall's Tr.* 72.

Behind the castle is a flower-garden, raised from a terrace, which had also its foundation on piles in the lake, at a vast expence. The park belonging to it is about nine miles in length, interspersed with lawn, vale, and hillock, pools and fish-ponds, and stocked with fallow deer from England.

ROSCHILD, or ROSKILD, once the capital of the kingdom, and the residence of its king,
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situated at the bottom of the bay of Isefiord, eighteen miles west of Copenhagen. This city derives its name from Roe, the eleventh king of Denmark, who was the founder of it, and *kilde*, which signifies a spring; there being several springs on the spot where it stands. Since the kings of Denmark have removed their court from this place, it has dwindled greatly in wealth, commerce, and importance. The kings of Denmark were formerly elected and crowned in this city. Of twenty-seven churches, which formerly adorned this town, two only now remain. But the cathedral is a noble monument of the ancient grandeur of this town.

From the most remote antiquity, says Mr. Wraxall, the sovereigns of Denmark have been interred in the cathedral. I spent two or three hours among the tombs and coffers in which repose their remains. The vaults under the church are very numerous, and the ground is covered with the coffins of kings, queens, and princes, who, though born in different centuries, are now all collected together, and placed in the same gloomy chambers. The splendour which accompanies those of exalted birth, even after death, is in many of these almost vanished, and time has destroyed the gold and velvet which originally marked their dignity. In such a situation it was impossible not to be impressed with that sublime and awful melancholy, which scenes of this nature are peculiarly calculated to produce. The chilly and unwholesome dampness of the air, the mournful light produced by a solitary taper intruding on these abodes of darkness, the numerous dead arranged side by side, and marked with crowns to denote their departed grandeur—All these have a most forcible effect on the mind, and will tinge with a temporary so-

lemnity the gayest temper. I found it so, and returned with pleasure from such a survey, to the upper air and chearful day. *Wraxall's Tr.* 68.

It continues to be the burying-place of the royal family. Among the tombs of the Danish kings, some of which are very magnificent, stands a handsome marble pillar, erected by queen Margaret, as a support to the whetstone, sent to her by Albert, king of Sweden, to sharpen her needles, in derision of her sex. He suffered severely for this sarcasm: he was taken prisoner by the queen, detained seven years in custody, and obliged to relinquish all his pretensions to the crown of Sweden. Here is also a monument to the memory of the same queen Margaret, who formerly presented this church with a fine altar, on which stood the images of the twelve apostles, each as large as a child of three years of age, of massy gold; but king Erick of Pomerania, who was no stranger to the intrinsic value of these figures, took them with him when he left Denmark. Here, in one of the chapels, are two of the most magnificent monuments in Europe: they were made in Italy, by order of Christian IV. and are erected to the memory of his father and grand-father, Frederic II. and Christian III.

The other church, which stands at the end of the town, is dedicated to the Virgin Mary; in which money was formerly coined, and a great number of popish reliques deposited. Here is a convent of Lutheran nuns, belonging to the best families; they wear no particular habit, are restricted by no vows, and, when a proper match offers, may leave the cloister and marry. Each of these ladies has a yearly pension of eighty rix-dollars, besides an apartment, board, &c. The college of the university is far from being in a flourishing condition, and the whole town exhibits

hibits evident marks of poverty and decay. A famous treaty of peace was concluded here, in 1658, between Denmark and Sweden.

CALLENBURG, or **KALUNDBURG**, a very flourishing town, seated at the bottom of a gulph which opens into the Great Belt, fifty-two miles west of Copenhagen. The gulph in this place forms a safe commodious harbour, a circumstance which contributes greatly to its trade. St. Mary's church in this town is ornamented with four high spires, and makes a handsome appearance. Here is a castle, now somewhat in ruins, in which Christian II. died in confinement. Albert, king of Sweden, was also a prisoner here; but, in 1658, the Swedes blew up the castle from motives of revenge.

RINGSTEDE, or **RINSTED**, a town of great antiquity, where many of the Danish kings are buried, in an old church dedicated to St. Canute: particularly king Waldemar and Eric the Pious. The houses are mean, and the town quite destitute of trade, though it is still famous for a court of judicature, to which appeals lie from all the courts of Zealand, except Copenhagen, and some other towns.

NYEKIOBING, a small place, though formerly a city, it still enjoys the privileges of a city, with the advantages of navigation, and a good harbour.

The smaller towns in the island of Zealand, are Holbeck, Sora, Koge, Presto, Warienburg, Newsted, Skelskor, Korfor, and Slagelse.

The Island of **FUNEN**, is the second in point of extent and importance, extending about thirty-six
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miles from east to west, and thirty from south to north. It has the island of Samsoe on the north; the Greater Belt on the east; the Lesser Belt on the west; and the Baltic on the south. The face of the country is agreeably diversified with small verdant hills; delightful plains, and woods. The soil is rich and well cultivated, affording a large quantity of corn for exportation, as well as large herds of black cattle, a good breed of horses, and hogs in great abundance. Funen is the appanage of his Danish majesty's eldest son, and the government of it is one of the most considerable in the whole kingdom. Invited by the fertility and beauty of this island, most of the noble families in the kingdom have long resided in it. Here are several fresh water lakes and rivers, but none of them are navigable. In the bays, and along the coast, a great quantity of sea-fish are taken; particularly cod, herrings, eels, turbot, &c. The whole island is divided into five districts, in which are four garrison-towns, and two hundred and sixty-four villages. The principal places are

ODENSEE, or ODENCE, a city of great antiquity, and the capital of the island, supposed to have been built before the Christian æra, and to derive its name from the northern idol *Odin*, and not, as some imagine, from the emperor Otho, who never was in this city. It is large, populous, and well built, and was formerly the residence of the kings, as well as the place where the states assembled, before the crown became hereditary, and the sovereign absolute. Here are four churches, of which the cathedral is the most remarkable, dedicated to St. Canute; in which the body of that prince was found about one hundred and forty years ago, in a copper coffin,

coffin, gilt and adorned with precious stones. The kings palace, which is built on the spot where the ancient convent of St. John formerly stood, is neither large, commodious, nor elegant; it was intended only as a lodging for Frederic IV. in his occasional progresses through Funen: that excellent prince, however, died in this palace, in 1730. In 1621, Christian IV. erected, and liberally endowed, a college in this place. A subsidy treaty was concluded here in 1701, between Denmark, England, and Holland. Odensee is famous for its excellent beer.

NYBURG, or NEWBURG, a town with a good harbour, situated on the Great Belt, where the passage is narrowest between Funen and Zealand. The inhabitants subsist partly by accommodating the passengers, who daily cross from hence to Korsor in Zealand, or return hither from thence; and partly by commerce. Ships passing through the Great Belt, are obliged to pay a toll here, for which purpose a man of war is always stationed in the Belt. The royal palace in which Christian II. was born, in 1481, is now in ruins: only a wing of it remains, which at present serves for a magazine and arsenal.

This island also contains the smaller towns of Schwinborg, Woburg, Affens, Middlefahrt, and Kierteminde.

The island of LANGE LAND is situated in the Great Belt, to the south-east of Funen, to the west of Laland, and the south-west of Zealand, being about twenty-two miles in length, and eight in breadth. It is fertile in every part, abounding with wheat, rye, and barley, of which the natives annually export great quantities. In the thirteenth century it was an appanage to some

some of the princes of the blood, and was called a principality; but it is now only a county, under the same general governor as the island of Funen. It is divided into sixteen parishes, in which the only places worth mentioning are Rutcoping, and Rudkiobing.

The Island of LALAND has Zealand on the north, Falster on the east, Langeland on the west, and Fermeren on the south. It is about thirty-eight miles in length, and twenty in breadth, and the soil is so fertile that it supplies Copenhagen with wheat, and great quantities are yearly exported by the Dutch traders. It is said indeed to be the richest spot in his Danish majesty's dominions, producing all sorts of grain in great abundance. It is also famous for a kind of red fruit, called manna, which resembles sweet almonds in taste, and grows on a slender stem. This island is not without woods, but they are chiefly on the west side of it. Agriculture is so very advantageous in this territory, that grazing is very little attended to. Laland has a particular governor, but, in spiritual affairs, is under the jurisdiction of the bishop of Funen. It is adorned with many villages, with seats belonging to the noblesse, exclusive of the towns, named Neschow, Saxcoping, and Nysted.

The Island of PALSTER, which is twenty miles in length, and eight in breadth, lies to the north-east of Laland, from which it is separated by a narrow channel. Like that of Laland, it has a remarkable fertile soil, and is called the orchard of Denmark, from the profusion of fruit which it produces. It is usually the dowry of the queens of Denmark and is divided into two
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bailiwicks, which contain several towns, the principal of which are Nycoping, and Stubcoping.

The Island of MOON, which is situated to the north-east of Falster, is nearly of the same magnitude as that island, but more hilly, and less fertile, though it abounds with good pasture. It contains several villages, and one respectable town, called Stege, seated on a rivulet in the northern part of the isle.

The island of FEMEREN, though very small, is a spot of great importance, being, with regard to the empire, one of the keys of Denmark. It is situated near the coast of Wagria, in Holstein, from which it is separated by a strait about two miles in length, known by the name of Der Femmer Sundt. The fortifications of this island are kept in repair, and strong garrisons are maintained in every place that is defensible. Femeren contains two parishes, and is fruitful in corn and pasture.

BORNHOLM is the remotest and most easterly of all the islands belonging to Denmark, lying at the distance of seventy-five miles from Zealand, and fifteen from the coast of Schonen. It is about eighteen miles in length, and ten in breadth. It is a place of great importance, from its fertility and situation, and once belonged to the archbishop of Lunden; but king Christian II. took possession of it in 1524, as being absolutely necessary for the fleet which he was preparing against Sweden. This usurpation was opposed by George Sefteberg, who was then archbishop, with all his power, but in vain, the archbishop being afterwards obliged to fly into Germany to avoid the effects of the king's displeasure. The

Swedes have often laid this island waste. In the war with Frederic II. they made themselves masters of it, and intended to keep it, but were obliged to restore it by the treaty of Copenhagen, in 1660. The most considerable places in this island, are Sandwych, on the northern coast: Rattenby, or Rottum, to the south-west; Nex, to the east; and Sandhamer to the north of Nex. Here are also several populous villages.

Several smaller islands are scattered on the coasts of Jutland and Zealand; but they are too inconsiderable to deserve particular description; and with respect to his Danish majesty's dominions in Germany, they have been already described in our account of that country.

N O R.

N O R W A Y.

THIS country, called *Norge* by the Danes and Norwegians, was known to the ancients by the names of *Norrike*, *Norrige*, *Nerigon*, *Norwegia*, or *Norrigia*. It is called in Latin *Norvegia*, or *Norvegiæ Regnum*, and had its name from its situation towards the north pole; *Nord-way*, in the language of that country, signifying the *Way to the North*.

The North Cape, anciently called *Rutubæ Promontorium*, situated on the island of Maggero, five degrees and a half beyond the polar circle, is the farthest extremity of Norway, inhabited by the Finmarks, or Laplanders; a savage people, to whom nature seems to have acted as a severe step-mother. This cannot but be admitted, when we consider the external form of these wretched people, their brutality, their want of necessaries, or their situation amidst dreary mountains, woods, and deserts, covered with the keenest frost and drifting snows in the winter; and swarming in the summer with myriads of vermin, much more intolerable than all the horrors of intense cold and famine. As this miserable abode is divided into three separate portions, appended to the dominions of Denmark, Sweden, and Russia, we have inserted a particular account of it in the article of Lapland. The other parts of Norway shall be the first objects of our attention.

Norway lies between the fifty-seventh and seventy-second degrees of north latitude, and be-

tween the fifth and thirty-first degrees of longitude, east from London, extending about one thousand miles in length, in a direct line from Lindesnaes, in the diocese of Christian-sand, to the North Cape, at the extremity of Finmark. Its breadth, from the frontiers of Sweden westward to Cape Statt, is about three hundred miles, but it gradually becomes narrower towards the north. On the west and north it is washed by the northern ocean; on the east it is separated from Sweden by a long chain of high mountains; and on the south it is bounded by the entrance into the Baltic, called the Schagen-rack, or Categate.

The coast of Norway, which extends above three hundred leagues, is studded with a multitude of small islands, affording habitation to fishermen and pilots, and pasture to a few cattle. They form an infinite number of narrow channels and a natural barrier of rocks, which renders Norway inaccessible to the naval power of its enemies. Attempts of this kind are the more dangerous, as the shore is generally bold, steep, and impending; so that close to the rocks, the depth of the sea amounts to one, two, or three hundred fathoms. The perils of the North Sea are increased by sudden storms, rocks under water, violent currents, and dreadful whirlpools. The most remarkable vortex on the coast is called *Moskoeſtrom*, from the small island Moskoe. In time of flood, the stream runs up between Lofoden and Moskoe with the most boisterous rapidity; but, in its ebb to the sea, it roars like a thousand cataracts: the surface exhibits different vortices, and, if a ship is absorbed in any one of them, it is whirled down to the bottom, and dashed in pieces against the rocks.

rocks. These violent whirlpools continue without intervals, except for about a quarter of an hour at high and low water, in calm weather. When one of these whirlpools is heightened by a storm, no vessel ought to venture within a league of it. Whales have been frequently absorbed within the vortex, and have made a most hideous bellowing in their fruitless endeavours to disengage themselves. A bear, in attempting to swim from Lofoden to Moskoe, was once hurried into this whirlpool, and roared so loud as to be heard on shore; but, notwithstanding all his efforts, he sunk and was destroyed. Large trees being absorbed by the current, are sucked down, and rise again all shattered into splinters. There are three of these vortices near the islands of Ferroe.

The air is generally pure and salubrious. On the sea-coasts, indeed, it is rendered moist by vapours and exhalations; but, in the midland parts of the country towards the mountains, the climate is dry and purified. The inhabitants have no idea of sickness, except that which is the consequence of excesses. In the vale of Gulbrand, in particular, the peasants live to such extreme old age, that it is said they become weary of life, and cause themselves to be removed to a less salubrious climate, to have a better chance of a speedy dissolution. In consumptions, however, the moist air on the sea-side is found more agreeable to the lungs in respiration. This country being mountainous and intersected with creeks, and abounding with rivers, lakes, and snow, is subject to frequent rains. From sudden thaws, the inhabitants are sometimes exposed to terrible disasters: vast quantities of snow falling from precipices, overwhelm men, cattle, boats, houses, and even villages.

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The climate and atmosphere are various in different parts of the kingdom. At Bergen the winter is so moderate, that the seas are always open and practicable, both to mariners and fishermen, except in creeks and bays which reach far up into the country, when the keen north-east wind blows from the land. In the eastern parts, the cold generally sets in, with great severity, about the middle of October, and continues till the middle of April; during which interval, the waters are frozen to a considerable thickness, and the face of the country is covered with snow. In 1719, seven thousand Swedes who intended to attack Drontheim, perished in the snow on the mountain of Ruden, or Tydal, which separates Jemteland in Sweden from the diocese of Drontheim. Of the whole body, consisting of ten thousand men, only two thousand five hundred survived this dreadful calamity. The snow is still more intense in that part of Norway called Finmark, situated in the Frigid Zone, near the polar circle. But in summer the heat is often excessive, partly owing to the high mountains which reflect the sun-beams, and partly to the length of the days: the sun's absence below the horizon is indeed so short, that the atmosphere and mountains have not time to cool. Hence it happens that, in some places, the heat is so great, that all the vegetation is astonishingly quick: barley is sown and reaped in the space of six or eight weeks, and other grain and vegetables are equally rapid in their progress.

The longest day at Bergen consists of nineteen hours; the sun rising at half an hour after two, and setting at half an hour after nine. The shortest day does not exceed six hours, as the sun rises at nine in the morning, and sets at about three in the afternoon. In summer a person may read
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and write at midnight without any artificial light: Christian V. when he resided at Drontheim, made it his practice to sup at midnight without candles: in the district of Tromsø, at the extremity of Norway, the sun is continually in view at Midsummer. It is seen to circulate day and night round the north pole, contracting its orbit, and then gradually enlarging it, till it leaves the horizon. It is therefore invisible for some weeks in winter, all the light perceived at noon being a faint glimmering for about an hour and a half, proceeding from the reflection of the sun's rays on the highest mountains. But the inhabitants of these northern provinces are supplied with other lights, by which they are enabled to exercise their fishery, and engage in other employments in the open air. The sky being generally serene, the moon-shine is remarkably bright, and being reflected from the mountains, illuminates the vallies. The people are also assisted by the north light, called *Aurora Borealis*, which is very frequent in the northern parts of Europe.

The mountains in Norway, as in every other country, are bare and barren, but the soil washed from them by torrents, snow, and rain, enrich and fertilize the vallies. Clay is found in different parts of the kingdom, of which the inhabitants have lately begun to make earthen-ware. The face of the country is, in many places, deformed by large swamps and marshes, very dangerous to the traveller. Near Leefoe, in the diocese of Christiansand, a wooden causeway is extended near a mile over a morass; where if a horse or any other animal should happen to make a false step, he sinks into the abyfs, never to rise again. All kinds of grain are sown in Norway, but not to equal advantage. Rye thrives best in

some places; barley is produced in every part of the country. Oats are the grain most generally sown in Norway; but, in many places, the good corn is destroyed by a kind of wild or spurious oats.

The fresh water of Norway is neither very light nor pure, but generally deposits a sediment of adventitious matter, and is often impregnated with oker, and particles of iron. It is, however, agreeable to the taste and remarkably salubrious.

This country is full of rugged rocks and mountains; the great chain, extending from north to south, called by the different names of Rudfield, Sudefield, Skarsfield, and Scoreberg, is known in different parts by other appellations; such as Dofrefield, Lamsfield, Filefield, Halnefield, Hardangerfield, Byglefield, Icklefield, Hickfield, and Hangfield. The height and breadth of this extensive chain vary in different parts. Filefield rises about two miles and a half in perpendicular height; but Dofrefield is esteemed the highest mountain of Norway, if not of Europe: the river Drivane, which winds along the side of it in a serpentine course, is met nine times by those who travel the winter road to the other side of the chain. For the convenience of resting and refreshing, there are houses maintained on these mountains, at the expence of the public, and furnished with fire, light, and kitchen utensils. Nothing can be more dismal or dreary than these tremendous scenes, covered with eternal snow, where neither tree nor living creature is to be seen, but here and there a solitary rein-deer, and perchance a few wandering Laplanders.

Besides this chain, this country exhibits a great number of detached mountains, some of which

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are of an incredible height, and others have an astonishing appearance.

Here are many excellent springs and fine rivers issuing from the mountains; which also afford good pasture, contain in their bowels inexhaustible treasures of minerals and metals, and are a kind of natural fortress to defend the country against the irruptions of an enemy. Besides innumerable brooks and rivulets, Norway is watered by several large rivers; the most remarkable of which are the Nied, the Sule Elv, the Gulen, the Otteroen, the Syre, the Nid, the Sheen, the Tyrefjord, the Loven, the Glaamen, the Drivane, &c. The rivers of Norway are not navigable for any vessels of burden, on account of their having a great number of rocks, by which the navigation is obstructed; but much more by the cataracts or water-falls, where the stream precipitates itself from a height of six, eight, ten, forty, fifty, and even a hundred fathoms. For stopping the timber which is floated down these water-falls, and generally without receiving any damage, booms, strongly fortified with iron bars, are at certain places laid across the rivers. Near these water-falls, some hundreds of sawing-mills are erected. The bridges over the rivers of Norway are all of timber.

Fresh water lakes are numerous in Norway; all of which are well stocked with fish, and navigable for large vessels. Of all the water-falls in Norway, that of Sarp is the most dangerous for its height and rapidity: the current drives seventeen mills, and roars along with such violence, that the water being dashed and comminuted among the rocks, rises in the form of rain; where a beautiful rain-bow may be always seen when the sun shines.

A considerable part of Norway is covered with forests, which constitute the principle article of commerce in the kingdom. They chiefly consist of fir, elm, pine, ash, yew, birch, alder, juniper, and aspen. Beech and oak are not very common, but ebony, lime-trees, maple, willows, &c. are plenty in some places. Large sums of money are received from foreigners, who export annually to several parts of Europe immense quantities of masts, beams, planks, and deal-boards. The forests of Norway are so extensive and full of trees, that the inhabitants have not any apprehension of there ever being a scarcity of wood, especially as the soil is particularly adapted for the production of it.

This country is particularly famed for its vast subterraneous treasures of metals and minerals. Gold has been found in small quantities, in the diocese of Christiansand, and coined into ducats. There is now a very considerable silver mine worked at Konegsberg. The silver mines at Jarisberg are not equally valuable, the ore being mixed with lead and copper. The copper mines in Norway are numerous.

Iron, which is still in great plenty, was the first metal wrought in this country. Many hundred thousand quintals are annually exported, principally in bars, and part of it in kettles, stoves, and cannon. The national profit arising from the iron mines, of which there are fifteen in Norway, is estimated at one hundred thousand rix dollars per annum. Alum is found between the slate flakes, near Christiania, in great plenty, though not in the greatest perfection.

Here are inexhaustible quarries of excellent marble, black, white, blue, grey, and variegated: with alabaster, spar, sand-stone, mill-stone, slate, talc, and the magnet or load-stone; toge-

ther with the swine-stone, a production peculiar to Norway and Sweden, deriving its name from its efficacy in a distemper incident to swine; the stone-flax, or stone-silk, consisting of fine fibres or threads, which are spun and woven into a kind of cloth, which when soiled is made clean by being thrown into the fire. Norway affords no flint, but plenty of pyrites or quartz, agate, thunder-stones, eagle-stones, granates, amethysts, and beautiful crystals.

In such a country agriculture cannot be in much perfection: the ploughed lands bear a very small proportion to the mountains, woods, forests, meadows, and wastes. Peas are propagated in this country, together with hops, hemp, and flax, but not to any considerable advantage. The meadows are liberally stored with rich pasturage for sheep and cattle, and the fields produce those vegetables which are common in other northern countries.

Within little more than half a century, the Norwegians bestowed so little attention to the culture of gardens, that their cities and towns were supplied with leeks, cabbages, and roots, from England and Holland; but now they raise their own culinary and garden roots and vegetables, which thrive with them as well as in any other country. Among the plants which grow wild in this kingdom, some are said to be peculiar to the soil: such as a species of the *nummularia sylvestris*, of which the inhabitants drink an infusion like tea, as a noble pectoral; the *piper aquaticum* of Lange with many others that are not to be found in any herbal.

The common fruit-trees, such as apples, pears, plums, &c. thrive tolerably well in Norway; where there are many others which seem to be

natives of Norway and Sweden. Among these are the tranæbar, the produce of the myrtillus repens, red and austere, found in perfection in the spring under the snow, and much relished by the rein-deer; crakebeer, resembling bilberries; agerbeer, larger, and blacker than bilberries, and of a pleasant acid: and tyltebeer, a red pleasant berry, growing on a short stem, with leaves resembling those of box.

The Norwegian horses are generally small, but well proportioned, swift, spirited, hardy, and in good condition. They are not very fit for draught, but they trot easily, are sure footed, and climb the mountains with surprising agility. Such is their courage, that they will fight with wolves and bears, and generally have the advantage.

The oxen and cows of this country are small, and the latter yield but little milk, but in the beginning of winter they are sufficiently fat for the market; and their flesh is very tender, delicate, and juicy. The mutton is small and delicious, and the fleeces are profitable. The rocks are covered with goats and kids: from Bergen alone seventy thousand raw skins are yearly exported, exclusive of those which are manufactured in the country.

Few hogs are reared in Norway: of dogs there is a variety, as in other nations, and they are trained for particular purposes. Cats are numerous, both tame and wild: the latter take up their abode in trees, and live upon bird-catching. Their skins bear a good price, and are used for winter-lining.

The elk here is a tall animal, of an ash-colour, in figure partaking of the horse and stag, having long ears, flat horns, and cloven hoofs. It is perfectly harmless, and takes up its residence near houses in the winter. The flesh resembles that of
venis-

venison, and the hide is tanned into strong leather. The rein-deer is a species of the stag, peculiar to these northern countries.

Norway abounds with small hares, which, in the severe season, change their colour from brown to white: they live chiefly upon mice, which they pursue under the snow. Rabbits are not common, but they are found in some parts of the kingdom.

Though bears are found in every part of Norway, they principally inhabit the districts of Bergen and Drontheim. This animal is generally of a dark or light-brown colour, very strong, and sagacious. While a she-bear suckles her young, it is dangerous to meet her in the fields; but at other times she will fly from the human species.

Dr. Goldsmith, in his History of the Earth and Animated Nature, mentions a Norwegian bear, who took the liberty of seating himself in a ferryman's boat, and sat with great composure till his conductor landed him at a distant shore; when, instead of requiting the favour by making a meal of his benefactor, he seemed sensible of the obligation conferred on him, removed out of the boat with a placid countenance, and gratefully took his leave.

On the approach of winter, the bear makes a choice of some cave or cavern for his winter quarters, where he prepares himself a bed of moss and leaves: he also covers up the opening with boughs in such a manner that, when the snow falls, no entrance appears, and no sign remains of an animal inclosed within. Here a deep sleep overtakes him, from which he cannot easily be roused, even by wounds, when his den is discovered. If he escapes detection, he will continue in a kind of slumber during the whole win-

winter without either eating or drinking. It is an erroneous opinion that the animal receives nourishment by sucking its paws, and is only countenanced by the situation in which it lies, with its mouth bearing on its paws.

The wolves in Norway traverse in companies the woods, mountains, and deserts: a great variety of snares are laid for this animal: sometimes he is blown up by a train of gunpowder; sometime shot by a loaded musket, laid ready primed and cocked upon a carcase; sometimes he is caught in a hole dug in the ground, and concealed by a false cover, which, on his touching it, falls down like a trap-door, and shuts again by means of a spring. Sometimes a peasant has happened to fall into this subterraneous prison, and found a wolf, and other animals in the same apartment: but, in order to avoid such accidents, the person who digs the snare is obliged by law to give intimation of it throughout the whole district.

The lynx, which is an inhabitant of this country, is smaller than a wolf, but equally fierce and dangerous; and its skin is more beautiful and valuable. Foxes of different colours, white, red, and black, abound in Norway. The cunning of this animal is well known; and he is equally ingenious in all climates. He is particularly distinguished by his abilities in every country.

One of the most remarkable quadrupeds in Norway is the erven, or *vielfras*, which signifies the glutton. In shape and size it resembles a turnspit dog; but his fur is variegated, and shines like damask: it is indeed so very fine and precious, that he is shot with blunt arrows that the skin may not be injured. This creature has such an insatiable appetite, that he will eat a carcase larger than himself. When he finds himself gorged,
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he squeezes himself between two trees standing pretty close together, and exonerates his stomach. When taken alive and chained to a wall, he will even eat the stones and mortar.

The marten, or haaren, is not unlike a brown forest cat: its bite is severe, and it emits a disagreeable stench, but its skin has a fine gloss, and is very valuable. Squirrels are also produced in Norway, which are shot with blunt arrows, or taken in snares.

The ermin, a kind of weazel, resides in the clefts of rocks, and among heaps of stones. The nature of his elegant fur needs no description. Though this beautiful creature stinks like a polecat, it is so cleanly, that, according to report, it will rather run through the fire than pass through any mud or dirt, that might defile its white and precious covering. These animals are taken in traps, or shot with blunt arrows.

Among the Norwegian quadrupeds, we may number the beaver or castor, the otter, the badger, the hedgehog, the mole, the wood and water rat, the mouse, and the lemming or lumhund. The last is peculiar to these northern countries, and is said to be a native of the mountains of Kolen, in Lapland. This creature seems to be a species of the rat, with very long legs, a short tail, large whiskers, small eyes and ears, and long sharp teeth.

Besides such birds as are common to other European countries, the sea-coasts are covered with innumerable flights of aquatic fowls, which build among the rocks and cliffs, and feed upon fish or sea-weed. Among these we enumerate a great variety of wild-geese, and ducks. The Alk, a bird peculiar to this country, builds in the most inaccessible rocks, flying in such numbers as even to darken the air, while the noise
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of their wings is like the roaring of a storm; the berg-ugle, the basiar, the strand-snappe, the gagl, the hav-arre, the havhest, the havsule, the imber, or great northern diver, the skue, &c. The common people who live about the sea-coast, are employed at one season of the year in climbing steep rocks, with equal danger, skill, and intrepidity, to catch these airy inhabitants. Their flesh, feathers, down, and eggs, afford a good maintenance to these peasants. Some of the eggs are as large as those of a hen, and great quantities are carried to market. Though these birds have a fishy taste, they serve the common people for food; but the principal advantage is yielded by the feathers and down which are annually sold to the merchants at Bergen. At the head of the game-fowl in this country is the tier, or cock of the wood, of a black or dark-grey colour, with some red about the eyes.

The northern ocean is the great repository for fish and sea-animals, which swarm in myriads near the Pole: some for the convenience of prey, and others for the benefit of protection, yielded by perennial bulwarks of ice. Under this cover, the herring, cod, mackerel, whiting, &c. breed without molestation from the unwieldy whale, which, on account of his respiration, will not venture far below the ice.

The herrings annually visit the western coast of Norway, chiefly Nordland, in such amazing swarms, as to exceed conception. The innumerable shoals that come forth from their shelter under the ice at the north-pole, divide themselves into three bodies about the latitude of Iceland. One of these directs its course to the westward, steering round the Hebrides and coast
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of Scotland towards Newfoundland: the second courses round the eastern part of Great-Britain, down the channel; and the third, passing to the left, enters through the Sound into the Baltic. A shoal not only extends a vast way in length and breadth, but also reaches from the bottom to the surface, even in the depth of two hundred fathoms. Several hundred ship-loads of pickled herrings are yearly exported from Bergen only, besides what are consumed at home by the common people.

The cod, ling, torfk, and kabeliau, follow the herrings to feed upon their spawn. The cod and herring-fishery of Norway employs and maintains upwards of one hundred and fifty thousand people.

A fish called the rana piscatrix, or sea-devil, is sometimes seen on this coast, about six feet in length. The head constitutes about one half of the animal, the body tapers into a sharp-pointed tail, the eyes are large, and the jaws wide and horrible, set with different rows of sharp teeth. The scorpio marinus, or sea-scorpion, found on the Norway coast, is a fish about four feet in length, with a head larger than his body, of a hideous aspect, wide mouth, monstrous jaws, and small scales of a reddish colour. It is not only a voracious animal, but its bite is said to be poisonous.

Of exanguious fish, whether crustaceous, testaceous, or insect, there is a great variety in the Norwegian sea. Among these we may enumerate oysters, muscles, cockles, lobsters, crabs, shrimps, scuttle-fish, sea-hedgehogs, different kinds of star-fish, the sea-snail, the wilk, the hermit-fish, the sepia, loligo, or ink-fish, the urtica marina, or sea nettle, the pearl-band, &c.

The rock-oysters of Norway are large and delicious.

If the testimony of many creditable Norwegians may be believed, the northern ocean produces some very extraordinary animals, the existence of which has been doubted by mankind in general.

The sea snake, which is peculiar to the Norwegian sea, has been seen by many hundreds of mariners, fishermen, and others.

Among the insects peculiar to Norway are the cluster-worms and frog-worms: the last are brought hither by the west wind in the summer, and fall on trees and greens, destroying the vegetation: another sort, larger and more mischievous, falls down with the snow in the spring, consuming every thing that is green. Here are snakes of different colours that live upon the land, as well as water-snakes, lizards, toads, frogs, snails, grasshoppers, plow-worms, flow-worms, and centipes. Norway also produces the spider, the caterpillar, the butterfly, the common fly, the gnat, the woodlouse, the flea, the beetle, and the ant.

The original inhabitants of Norway were the descendants of those ferocious Normanni, who harassed almost all the coasts of Europe with piratical armaments, in the eighth, ninth, and tenth centuries; but many Danish, German, English, Scotch, and Dutch families, have settled in Norway, and now form no inconsiderable part of the trading people. They speak the language that is used in Denmark, though their original tongue is the dialect now spoken in Iceland.

Lutheranism is the established, and almost the only religion in Norway, except in the province of Finmark, where there are still no inconsiderable number of Pagans. The ecclesiastical govern-

vernment is under the archbishop of Drontheim, with four suffragans which are Bergen, Staffanger, Hammer, and Christiania. Under the bishops are the provosts, the preachers, and the chaplains or curates, with the inferior church-officers.

The laws are in substance the same as the laws of Denmark, with a few alterations, suitable to the difference of circumstances in the two kingdoms.

By the union of Calmar, the two kingdoms of Norway and Denmark were united under one monarch; and, at that time, the people of both nations enjoyed considerable privileges: but the Danish government is now become absolute, and Norway is ruled despotically by a viceroy who resides in the capital, and presides in the supreme court, to which appeals are made from the subordinate courts of justice.

This country can produce fourteen thousand excellent seamen. The military establishment amounts to thirty thousand effective men; and the annual revenue exceeds eight hundred thousand rix-dollars.

The Norwegians have an extensive trade with foreign nations. The duty on the produce of their own country exported, amounts annually to one hundred thousand rix-dollars. These commodities are copper, wrought and unwrought; iron forged into bars, and cast into cannon, stoves, and pots; masts, timber, deal-boards, planks, marble, mill-stones, fish of various kinds, cow-hides, goat-skins, seal-skins, the furs of bears, wolves, foxes, beavers, martins, ermins, &c. down, feathers, butter, train-oil, tallow, tar, juniper and other berries, nuts, alum, glass, vitriol and potashes. All other commodities, and articles of luxury,

luxury, the Norwegians import from different nations. Many of the inhabitants are employed in felling wood, floating timber, burning charcoal, and extracting tar from the roots of trees which have been cut down. Not a few obtain a comfortable subsistence by hunting, shooting, and bird-catching.

Anciently the Norwegians were so turbulent and rebellious, that their kings were incessantly engaged in factions and domestic broils. Many of the ancient sovereigns lost their lives in civil wars and intestine commotions: but, within these two or three centuries, especially since this country has been annexed to the crown of Denmark, they have been more civilized; no tumults or insurrections being heard of among them. The Norwegians are generally well formed, tall, sturdy, and robust, as well as brave, hardy, honest, hospitable, and ingenious; but many of them are savage, rash, and quarrelsome. The women are comely, well-shaped, and fair. Every freeholder in Norway enjoys the right of primogeniture, and power of redemption: and it is far from being unusual to see a peasant inhabiting the same house which has been possessed four hundred years by his ancestors.

The mountaineers acquire great strength and dexterity by laborious exercises, climbing rocks, skating on the snow, and handling arms, which they carry from their youth, to defend themselves against the wild beasts of the forests. Those who inhabit the maritime parts of Norway, exercise employments of fishing and navigation, and become very expert mariners.

The peasants of Norway have no handicraftsmen among them. Every one is his own taylor, hatter, shoe-maker, smith, carpenter, &c. They are even expert at ship-building, and some few of them make excellent violins: but their general

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turn is for carving in wood, which they execute with great ingenuity, and with a common knife of their own forging. In their youth they are taught to ride, wrestle, swim, skait, climb, shoot, and forge iron. Their chief amusements consist in making verses, blowing the horn, playing on the violin, or an instrument which bears some affinity to the guitta. Even at funerals, they perform on the violin.

The nobility and merchants of Norway fare sumptuously; but the peasant observes the utmost temperance and frugality, except at festivals. Cakes made of oatmeal are his common bread; but in time of scarcity, the Norwegians boil, dry, and grind the bark of the fir-tree into a kind of flour, which they mix with oatmeal: the bark of the elm-tree is also used in the same manner. Where a fishery is carried on, they knead the roes of cod with their oatmeal. Of these last, mixed with barley-meal, they make hasty-pudding and soup, which they enrich with a pickled herring, or a salted mackerel. On the sea-coast they have fresh fish in great abundance. They hunt and eat red-deer, rein-deer, hares, grouse, and partridges.

For their winter stock they kill cows, sheep, and goats, which they pickle, dry, or smoke for use. They make cheese of their milk, and a liquor called syre of their sour whey: this they mix with water for their common beverage. They enjoy excellent health, and often attain to a surprising degree of longevity: a healthy Norwegian, upwards of an hundred years of age, is no uncommon sight. Four couples danced before his Danish majesty at Frederickshall, in 1733, whose ages, when added together, exceeded eight hundred years.

The Norway peasants wear a wide loose jacket, made of coarse cloth, with waistcoat and breeches

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luxury, the Norwegians import from different nations. Many of the inhabitants are employed in felling wood, floating timber, burning charcoal, and extracting tar from the roots of trees which have been cut down. Not a few obtain a comfortable subsistence by hunting, shooting, and bird-catching.

Anciently the Norwegians were so turbulent and rebellious, that their kings were incessantly engaged in factions and domestic broils. Many of the ancient sovereigns lost their lives in civil wars and intestine commotions: but, within these two or three centuries, especially since this country has been annexed to the crown of Denmark, they have been more civilized; no tumults or insurrections being heard of among them. The Norwegians are generally well formed, tall, sturdy, and robust, as well as brave, hardy, honest, hospitable, and ingenious; but many of them are savage, rash, and quarrelsome. The women are comely, well-shaped, and fair. Every freeholder in Norway enjoys the right of primogeniture, and power of redemption: and it is far from being unusual to see a peasant inhabiting the same house which has been possessed four hundred years by his ancestors.

The mountaineers acquire great strength and dexterity by laborious exercises, climbing rocks, skating on the snow, and handling arms, which they carry from their youth, to defend themselves against the wild beasts of the forests. Those who inhabit the maritime parts of Norway, exercise employments of fishing and navigation, and become very expert mariners.

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of the same. Their heads are covered with flapped hats, or decorated with caps adorned with ribbands. In the winter they wear leathern buskins, when they have also snow shoes, and long skaits, with which they travel at a great rate, either on and on ice.

A leather belt, adorned with plates, surround a peasant's body, from which depends a chain of the same metal, which sustains a large knife, a gimlet, and variety of other tackle. The women have close laced jackets, with leathern girdles decorated with silver. Their necks are also ornamented with a silver chain, to the ends of which are fixed gilt medals; and they have a singular method of covering their handkerchiefs and caps with plates of silver, brass, and tin, together with large rings and buttons. A maiden-bride appears with her hair plaited and decorated with these kinds of metal trinkets, and all her apparel is enriched with such embellishments.

The churches, public edifices, and many private houses in Norway are built of stone; but the habitations in general are composed of wood. In the whole diocese of Bergen, a farm-house with a chimney or window is hardly to be seen: these humble mansions are usually lighted by a square hole in the top of the house, which admits the light and lets out the smoke. During the summer this aperture remains open: in the winter it is covered with what they call a *fiau*, which is the membrane of some animal, stretched upon a wooden frame that fits the hole, and transmits the rays of light. The cieling is about eight feet high, in the centre, and being arched like a cupola, the smoke of the fire underneath rolls about till it passes through the aperture. In the middle of the room stands a thick table with

with benches, in which are locked up his most valuable effects.

Norway is divided into the four governments of Aggerhus or Christiania, Bergen, Drontheim, and Wardus: besides that of Bahus, which is now subject to Sweden. The province of AGGERHUS comprehends the south-east part of Norway, and has the province of Bergen on the west, from which it is separated by vast mountains; Dalecarlia and Bahus on the east; the mouth of the Baltic, called the Cate-gate on the south; and the province of Drontheim on the north. Its extent from south to north is about three hundred miles, and from east to west one hundred and twenty; but it grows narrower northward till it ends in a point. The principal places it contains are

CHRISTIANIA, the capital of the province of Aggerhus, and the most magnificent city of the kingdom. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the metropolitan see of Drontheim, where the sovereign court of justice is held in the presence of the viceroy, and the governor of the province. The viceroy, the governor, and the bishop, reside in this city, which is about thirty miles distant from the Baltic, and one hundred and ten north of Schagen-Cape, in Jutland. It is regularly built, of a considerable extent, and carries on a great trade. In the cathedral, dedicated to St. Alward, is shewn the sword of Hacquin, one of their kings, the hilt of which is of crystal, and is a great curiosity of art and antiquity. In this city the nuptial rites were solemnized between king James VI. of Scotland, afterwards king of England, and Anne, the daughter of Frederic II. king of Denmark, on the 23d of November, 1589, that prince having

taken a voyage thither, on the lady's being driven back by contrary winds, when she first set out for Scotland.

AGGERHUS, an important fortification at the bottom of a bey in the Baltic, about eighteen miles south-west of Christiania, memorable for the brave resistance it made against the Swedish army, in 1567.

FREDERICKSHALL, a city in the Cate-gate, at the mouth of the river Glammen, about fifty miles south-east of Aggerhus. It is governed by a town magistrate, and has some trade in timber. It is so strong by nature and art, and so conveniently situated for a ready intercourse by sea with Denmark, that it is the most important fortification in Norway. Charles XII. of Sweden, laid siege to this place in the beginning of December 1718, and was killed before it on the eleventh of the same month, about nine o'clock at night.

Some historians, among whom is Voltaire, inform us, that he was killed by a ball from the enemy, when he was taking a view of the state of the advances made by his forces; but Mr. Wraxall says, I have conversed several times since my arrival here [*at Stockholm*] with the Swedes on the subject of the victories and death of Charles XII. They are almost unanimous in the apprehension, or rather avowal that he was put to death by those about him, and did not fall by a shot from the walls of Frederickshall, as is commonly supposed. *Wraxall's Tr.* 106.

The same author informs us that he saw, in the arsenal of Stockholm, the cloaths which Charles was habited in at the time he fell, and that

that the hat is torn only about an inch square, in that part of it which lies over the temple, and certainly would have been much more injured by a large shot.

The smaller towns in the government of Aggerhus, are Kongsberg, Saltfberg, Tonsberg, Hollen, Hammar, Stavern, Moss, Krajerøe, and Larwigen.

The government of BERGEN lies in the most southerly and westerly part of Norway, and is upwards of two hundred miles in length, though it does not exceed ninety in breadth. It has the sea on the south-west, west, and north, and the provinces of Aggerhus and Drontheim on the north-east and east. The most considerable places it contains are

BERGEN, an ancient celebrated sea-port, mentioned by Pomponius Mela and Pliny, one hundred and thirty-seven miles north-west of Christiania. It is the largest, and has the greatest trade of any city in Norway. It is situated on the continent in the middle of a valley, and is built in the form of a semicircle, on the sides of a bay which the inhabitants call Waag. Nature has so well fortified it towards the land with lofty mountains, seven of which are so remarkably high, that the passes or defiles between them are quite impracticable to an enemy; and, towards the sea, the harbour is extremely well defended by several fortifications. The bay here is so deep that vessels of above four hundred tons can enter it, and come to load and unload before the merchants' warehouses. All the churches, public edifices, and most of the houses along the strand are built of stone. This is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of

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Drontheim, and contains six churches, a cathedral school well endowed, a castle, a navigation school, and a seminary. The privileges granted by the king of Denmark to strangers make them flock to this town, and import thither those necessities of life which the country does not produce.

STAVANGER, a town situated in a district of the same name, on the bay called Buckenfiord. It has a commodious harbour. Though a small place, it is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Drontheim.

The Province or Government of DRONTHEIM extends about five hundred miles along the coast from north to south. This country is thinly peopled, and only cultivated along the shore. The most considerable place in it is

DRONTHEIM, a considerable town, situated on a little gulph at the mouth of the river Nider, about two hundred and twenty miles north-east of Bergen. It is the only metropolitan city in Norway, and carries on a great trade in masts, deals, tar, copper, and iron. King Olaf Tryggesson was the founder of this city, which was, for a time, the residence of the Norwegian kings, and afterwards of the archbishops. The cathedral, a superb edifice built of marble, was destroyed by fire in 1530, excepting the choir which is rather too large for the present church, and is still called the cathedral. In the month of July, 1625, king Christian V. spent several days in this town, and, as we have already observed, supped at midnight without lights. Here is a fine cathedral school, with a seminary of missionaries, an orphan-house, and

an hospital. It has a harbour, pretty well frequented by small vessels, though it is incommodious for others, the entrance being obstructed by rocks. The city is defended by Fort Christianstein, erected in 1680, some fortifications on the land side, and by the castle of Munkholmen, standing on a rock in Drontheim harbour.

This government also contains the small towns of Leerstrand, Stronden, Scoerdale, Opdal, Romsdael, Solendael, Christiansfund, Melanger, and Scheen.

The province of **WARDHUS**, which extends about three hundred and ten miles from east to west, and two hundred from south to north, including the island, is divided into two parts: Finmark and Norwegian Lapland. As it is the most northern part of Norway, much produce of the earth cannot be expected, nor many towns, or inhabitants. It was anciently inhabited by the Finni, whence the country called Finmark has its name, that term signifying the borders of the Finni. Tacitus speaking of them, says, "They are a people extremely savage and miserably poor; have neither horses, arms, house, or home; but feed upon roots, and such provisions as their bows and arrows can produce; and are cloathed with skins of wild beasts." To this day they are a savage race. The most considerable place in this province is a place named after the province.

The Province of **BAHUS**, though now yielded to the Swedes, is reckoned a part of Norway: it is a narrow tract of land, about ninety miles in length, and from twenty-five to ten in breadth. The principal places it contains are Bahus, a strong castle and Maelstrand a strong town.

I C E L A N D.

ICELAND, in Latin *Islandia*, so called from its excessive coldness, is the most considerable, as well as the most northerly of the islands belonging to Norway. It is situated in the Great Atlantic ocean between Norway and Scotland, lying between sixty-three and sixty-eight degrees of north latitude, and between ten, and twenty-six degrees of longitude west, from the meridian of London. It extends from east to west about seven hundred and twenty miles; and the breadth, at a medium, may be computed at about three hundred.

The climate of Iceland is as temperate as that of Norway. The winter sets in about the latter end of October, and the spring appears in the middle of April. Sometimes indeed it snows and hails in summer, but not to any great degree. The weather in this season is generally warm, both day and night; for the sun is but three hours below the horizon. In the shortest day of winter, the sun is not seen above the horizon longer than one hour, notwithstanding which the inhabitants have three hours day, besides twilight. In the southern parts, the sun is three hours above the horizon at the winter solstice, and the length of the day is six hours. The *Aurora Borealis* is frequent

quent here, as in other northern climates, and the sky is generally serene. The sea is never covered with ice, except that which comes floating from Greenland, extending several miles about the north coast.

Most of the mountains are covered with excellent grass, and the intermediate vallies are extremely fruitful in herbage. The interior parts of the island are not inhabited, but in these the natives graze their cattle, which are attended by persons employed for that purpose, who build summer-huts for their convenience. The ground, naturally fruitful, is further enriched by the soil washed from the mountains. The marshes, when drained, afford good pasture, and turf is plenty in almost every part of the island.

The water is generally light, pure and free from mineral impregnations; but chalybeate springs are found in several parts. The most remarkable circumstance of the Iceland water is, that, in a great many parts of the island, there are hot springs of various degrees. The sea-water, on the coast of Iceland, is more impregnated with salt than in most of the other parts of the northern ocean, and is therefore less liable to be frozen.

Iceland consists of a prodigious range of mountains, running from east to west; on the declivities of which, and in the vallies between them, the inhabitants live. Several of these high mountains, which are always covered with ice and snow, are called Jockeler. Here are also some mountains consisting only of rocks and sand, and are consequently barren. But on others, situated near the coast, there are levels or plains covered with verdure, of very great extent. Several mountains in this country are volcanoes, subject,
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but not often, to violent eruptions. Of these, the most remarkable are Krafle and Hecla; the first situated in the north, and the other in the southern part of the island.

Iceland is well watered with large and small rivers which flow from the mountains, besides other rivulets, streams, and large lakes, some of which are thirty miles in circumference.

In the rocks of Iceland crystals are sometimes found, and many of them represent an object viewed through them double; but, properly speaking, these are only a species of talc. There are also evident signs that the mountains of Iceland contain iron, copper, and even silver ore. Near these are found two kinds of agate, which, when lighted, burn like a candle. Here are also several sorts of stone; but the principal mineral of this island is sulphur.

The herbs and roots, common in other northern countries, are found here in abundance. All kitchen herbs and roots are easily brought to maturity in Iceland, which is not colder than Denmark; and this is also the case with the common fruit trees, which thrive exceedingly well. The country would certainly produce wheat, and every kind of grain, if it was cultivated.

Though bears are not natives of Iceland, they are frequently driven on this island on large floats of ice from Greenland: but the inhabitants are vigilant and dexterous in destroying them. The Iceland horses are of the Norwegian or Scottish breed, well shaped, hardy, and mettlesome, though very docile, and of different sizes.

Great numbers of sheep are to be seen in Iceland. The grazing countries lie principally in the northern and eastern parts of the island. The inhabitants of the southern are chiefly employed in

in fishing, and leave their flocks abroad both summer and winter. In the northern district the goats are much more numerous than the sheep, and thrive remarkably on the heath and bushes. The cows and oxen resemble those of Norway, from whence the breed was imported.

No crows, magpies, or owls, are ever seen here. Among the wild land fowls we may number partridges, snipes, owzels, and becafinés : the land-birds of prey are eagles, falcons, small hawks, and ravens. The cliffs, and small islands about the coast are covered with sea-birds that come hither to breed, and prey on the innumerable myriads of fish which swarm through the northern ocean. Swans and wild ducks frequent the fresh-water lakes and rivers in the summer, and breed there in the spring ; but when these waters are frozen, they resort to the sea, which is always open. The swan-eggs are eaten as delicacies ; but the bird is hunted for its down and feathers, which are valuable. Wild geese arrive here in the spring, produce their young and depart about the latter end of autumn. Here a vast variety of other birds dwell among the steep rocks. Their nests are robbed and themselves taken by the methods practised in Norway, which we have already mentioned. The eggs of these sea and shore birds are generally spotted, of a greenish colour, with a very thick shell.

The sea of Iceland is inhabited by infinite multitudes of those fishes, which we have mentioned in our description of Norway ; and the fishery is the most considerable branch of commerce in which the people of this country are employed ; but they apply themselves chiefly to the cod-fishery, especially in the south and western quarters of the island. The Danish merchants in

in Iceland pickle several hundred casks of cod annually, and export them to Copenhagen.

Among the whales, which sport in great numbers on the Iceland coast, we find the great Greenland whale, with a smooth back, sometimes two hundred and forty feet in length. The sea calf, or white shark, is sometimes found eighteen feet long with a liver that will yield sixty gallons of oil. The sword or saw-fish also frequents these coasts.

There is a great number of seals, distinguished into the different classes of the land-seal, the island-seal, and the Greenland-seal.

Snakes do not make their appearance in Iceland; nor can any country on the globe be less troubled with insects and vermin. Flies and gnats indeed are a little troublesome in the summer, when it is very hot. A kind of worm also appears in wet weather, which the inhabitants imagine falls with the rain.

The secular government of this island is lodged in the *staftis-amptmand* or general governor of Iceland and Faroe, who usually resides at Copenhagen, and deposes an amptman, or prefect, who resides at the king's palace at Reffsted, on a salary of four hundred rix-dollars. The king's revenues in Iceland arise from taxes and dues, an annual sum paid by the company of merchants, secularized abbey-lands, and other royal demesnes farmed out to the natives.

All suits concerning freehold property are determined by the Norwegian law; but, in other disputes, the old Iceland law takes place. The old ecclesiastical law is abolished, and all spiritual matters are decided by the law of Norway, or by royal edicts.

While the inhabitants of Iceland were Pagans, their chief Gods were Thor and Odin, their Jupiter

piter and Mercury, to whom they erected temples and altars, and sacrificed men by throwing them down from steep rocks, or into deep pits, near their temples; of which they had two principal ones, at Hole and Schalhold the only villages in the whole island; and even these have but a few houses contiguous to each other. Lutheranism is now the only religion tolerated in this country. The churches of the east, south, and west quarters, are under the jurisdiction of the bishop of Schalhold; and those of the north quarter are subject to the bishop of Hoolum.

The language in Iceland is the same as that which was formerly spoken in Sweden, Denmark, and Norway; and has been preserved so pure that any Icelfander understands their most ancient traditional histories. It is a dialect of the ancient Runic tongue.

The number of the inhabitants of Iceland is estimated at seventy thousand, which is by no means adequate to the extent of the country. Not more than a tenth part of the island is now inhabited. Most of the natives live along the sea-coast, though there are some families settled above an hundred miles up in the country. Iceland has twenty-two harbours, at each of which is built a factory or little town, where the company of merchants trade with the inhabitants.

The natives are naturally of a robust and vigorous constitution, but become debilitated by the continual fatigues and hardships they undergo at sea, in their fisheries. The Iceland women are rather delicate than healthy.

The Icelanders are an honest well-meaning people, industrious, and very faithful and obliging: theft is seldom heard of among them. They are much inclined to hospitality, and exercise it as far as their poverty will permit. They

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chiefly employ themselves in fishing, and the care of their cattle. On the coasts the men employ their time in fishing both winter and summer, and the women prepare the fish, and sew and spin. The men also prepare leather, and work at several mechanic trades. When they meet together, much of their pastime consists in reading their history, playing at chess, and reciting verses. Sometimes a man and woman take each other by the hand, and by turns sing stanzas, which are a kind of dialogue, and in which the company occasionally join in chorus.

The dress of the Icelanders is neither elegant nor ornamental, but neat, clean, and suitable to their climate. On their fingers the women wear several gold, silver, or brass rings. The poorer women dress in the coarse cloth called Wadmál, and always wear black: those in better circumstances wear broad-cloth, with silver ornaments gilt. The habitations in Iceland nearly resemble those of Norway; with this difference, that, as they are not so well supplied with timber, they make more use of stones, turf, and mud-walls. The better sort possess tolerable houses, well furnished.

The usual food of the inhabitants of this island is fresh and dried fish, milk, oatmeal, and flesh; but they live principally on dried fish dressed with butter. As no corn is raised in Iceland, the common people seldom eat bread, except at feasts and festivals: as a substitute for bread, the Icelanders use dried fish, well beaten, and eat it unboiled, with butter spread upon it.

The commerce of Iceland is monopolized by a Danish company. Though there is not any considerable town on the whole island, the Icelanders have several frequented ports. Their exports consist of dried fish, salted mutton and lamb, beef, butter, tallow, train-oil, coarse woollen cloth, wool,

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stockings, gloves, sheep-skins, lamb-skins, fox-furs of various colours, eider-down, and feathers. Their imports are timber, fishing-lines and hooks, tobacco, bread, horse-shoes, wine, brandy, salt, linen, a little silk and velvet, and a few other necessaries: with some superfluities, for the people of the first class.

DIVISION.

ICELAND, according to the general division, consists of four quarters, which derive their names from the four cardinal points towards which they lie. This division is caused by so many ridges of mountains, which separate the quarters from each other. The only places worth mentioning are

SKAGESTRAND, a trading place and flesh-port.

SKAGAFIORDUR, also a trading place and flesh-port.

HOLUM, or Hoolum, an episcopal see, with a cathedral. A school is opened here during the winter, which was founded by Jonas Augmundson, the first bishop of this see, about the year 1106, and since improved by king Christian III. Here is also a printing-house.

EYRARBACHE, a fish and flesh-port.

SKALHOLT, an episcopal see, with a cathedral and school. The latter was founded by Islief, the first bishop of this diocese, in

1057; and king Christian III bestowed considerable benefactions on it.

BESSA-STADER, the residence of the king's amtman, or prefect. Here is a woollen manufactory.

The other towns, or rather trading places, are too inconsiderable to be noticed.

THE ISLANDS OF FARROE, OR FERO,

FERROYER, in the Norwegian language, signifies ferries, whence these islands obtained their name, from their lying in a cluster, and the inhabitants ferrying from one island to another. They are about twenty-four in number, and lie between sixty-one and sixty-three degrees of north latitude, and between six and eight degrees of west longitude from London. The space in which they are scattered extends about sixty miles in length, and forty in breadth, three hundred miles to the west of Norway: having Shetland and the Orkneys on the south-east, and Greenland and Iceland on the north and north-west. They are all indented by the sea, and furnish many inlets, creeks, and harbours which afford protection to fishermen and mariners.

The Farroe islands are subject to the king of Denmark, who confers the government of them on some person of quality at court; the latter appoints a deputy and sheriffs to administer justice. The laws of Denmark prevail in these islands with some additional statutes of their own. The inhabitants are mild, humble, religious, temperate, and extremely hospitable. Their usual cloathing is of coarse flannel, but their holiday garments are of better stuff. Li-
nen,

men, however, is seldom used. They are strangers to every elegance of life. They repose on beds of hay, covered with blankets.

Their commerce is very inconsiderable, but the court of Denmark arbitrarily imposes a tribute or tax, in which these poor islanders are obliged to acquiesce.

The names of these islands are Fugloe, Swinoe, Videroe, Bordoe, Kunoe, Kalsoe, Osteroe, Nelsøe, Stromoe, Waagoe, Miggeness, Kolter, Sandoe, Skuoe, Store-Diemen, Little Diemen, and Suderoe. The seven smaller island are called Holmes.

G R E E N.

GREENLAND.

IT is not perfectly ascertained to which of the four parts of the world Greenland properly belongs; but, from its connection with Norway from time immemorial, as well as from its belonging to the king of Denmark, this seems the most proper place to introduce it. This country lies about forty miles to the west of Iceland, beginning in forty-nine degrees and fifty minutes north latitude. The eastern coast is supposed to extend northerly as far as Spitzbergen, which some navigators have conjectured to be an island separated by a narrow channel from the continent of Greenland. The western shore has been discovered even beyond the seventieth degree; but, whether it is a large island, or contiguous to North America, cosmographers have not been able to determine. This question indeed cannot be decided, till some adventurers have penetrated into the bottom of Davis's Straights, or rather Baffin's Bay, which is a continuation of those straights.

If we may rely on the information that has been gleaned from those natives who inhabit the most northern parts of Greenland, there is but a very narrow passage between this country and America. They positively affirm that they have spoken with the people on the other side, whose
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language has an affinity with their own: they say the straight is so contracted in one place, that two persons can shoot at the same fish from opposite sides of the channel. It is probable, however, that this narrow straight is no more than a small body of water which divides Greenland from one of the lesser islands; and that, if there is no north-west passage towards the bottom of Baffin's Bay, Greenland is part of the American continent.

Greenland is so mountainous a country as to be discernible thirty leagues at sea. The inland mountains, hills, and rocks, are covered eternally with snow; but the low lands, on the other side, are in summer clothed with verdure. The coast abounds with inlets, bays, and large rivers; and near it is a vast number of islands of different dimensions: but, what renders it in many places inaccessible, are the mountains and islands of ice, fixed and floating, which appear like insuperable barriers along the shore, and seem to interdict all manner of approach. The principal river, called Baal, falls into the sea in the latitude of sixty-four.

The Aborigines, or original inhabitants, who, on the arrival of the Norwegians in this country, were savages, seem, from the little knowledge the latter had of them, to have been of American extraction. The first who gave occasion to the discovery of this island was one Gumbiorn, a mariner, who, after Iceland had been discovered, sailed further, and came to an island, to which he gave the name of Gumbiorn's Rock: he discovered other land lying to the north, but did not attempt to sail thither. As soon as this discovery was known, Erick, a Norwegian, surnamed Rothkopf, or Redhead, whose father Torwald had been obliged to fly to Iceland,

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on account of a murder he had committed in Norway, resolved to go in search of that unknown land. In the year of Christ, 981, or 982, he set sail from Snafelsnes, on the west side of Iceland; and steering a direct course, he discovered one of the Greenland mountains, which is now called Blaserk. From thence he sailed towards the south, and landing on an island, he spent the first winter there, and called it by his own name. In the two following years he gave names to several places; and, in the third summer, the time of his banishment being expired, this adventurer returned to Iceland.

Some years after, he made another voyage to this country; and from its fine verdant pastures and trees, gave it the name of Greenland, and founded the village Brattalid on Ericksfiord Bay, where he settled. Influenced by Erick, several Icelanders, from time to time, emigrated thither from their native country.

About fifteen years after Erick had settled in Greenland, Lief, his son, sailed from thence to Norway, and acquainted king Olaf Truggesen with his father's discovery and settlement. Olaf, being the first Norwegian sovereign who embraced the doctrine of Christianity, sent thither a missionary priest from Norway. The country throve under the king's protection, and, in a short time, was provided with many towns or villages, churches, convents, bishops, and a regular clergy, suffragans to the archbishop of Drontheim. A considerable commerce was carried on between them and Norway, and a regular intercourse maintained till the year 1406, when Andreas the last bishop, was sent over to Greenland. From that period all correspondence was cut off, and all knowledge of Greenland consigned to oblivion. This strange and abrupt cessation of trade

trade and intercourse has been ascribed to various causes.

Many expeditions have been planned and executed, under the auspices of a Danish company of merchants. Two ships returned from the western part of Greenland, loaded with a kind of yellow sand, supposed to contain a large quantity of gold. This was assayed by the goldsmiths of Copenhagen, and condemned as useless; in consequence of which it was thrown overboard; but, from a small quantity of this sand which had been reserved as a curiosity, an expert chemist afterwards extracted a quantity of pure gold. The captain who brought home this adventure, was so chagrined at his disappointment, that he died of grief, without having left any directions concerning the place where this sand had been discovered.

Many efforts have been made, under the countenance and encouragement of the Danish king, for the discovery and recovery of the Old Iceland colony in Greenland; but all of them miscarried.

Between the sixty-fourth and sixty-eighth degrees of latitude, the climate of Greenland, with respect to heat and cold, is not disagreeable. During the summer, which continues from the latter end of May to the middle of September, the weather is pleasant, warm, and comfortable, and the sky serene; but a cold damp fog, which intercepts the sun's beams, continually hovers over the islands and the coasts, except in the month of August, when all the vapours are dissipated. Near the shore, and in the bays and inlets, the low-land is cloathed with the most charming verdure; but the inland mountains are perpetually covered with ice and snow. It seldom thunders in this climate, and storms are uncommon, as well of short continuance; but the most

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violent

violent gusts of wind come from the south. To the north of the sixty-eighth degree, the cold is so intense, even in summer, that spirituous liquors will freeze at the fire-side. By the latter end of August the sea is covered with ice, which never thaws till April or May, and sometimes remains till the latter end of June. It is awful to behold the prodigious masses of ice, which appear on the coast in the different forms of rocks, castles, towers, and spires, reflecting a variety of colours, and floating from place to place, as if the whole scene was the effect of illusion or enchantment. Such are the prospects they afford in serene weather; but when the winds begin to blow, and the sea to swell in vast successive billows, the conflict of those congregated bodies of ice encountering, dashing, cracking, bursting, and shivering into ten thousand fragments, creates terror and astonishment.

Greenland is, in a particular manner, illuminated by the aurora borealis, or northern light, especially in the spring of the year: and about the new moon. From June to August, the sun is continually above the horizon; and consequently the inhabitants during that time have no night; but in winter the sun is hardly visible, the day being nothing more than the morning and evening twilights which altogether continue about two hours. During this gloomy and disconsolate season, the inhabitants keep chiefly in their huts, contriving before-hand to have little or nothing to do abroad.

The soil of this country varies, like that of all other mountain countries. The hills are barren, and indeed frozen all the year; the vallies and low grounds are rich and fruitful, especially towards the sea.

No

No serpents, lizards, toads, or newts, are seen in Greenland; nor any insect more venomous than gnats, which swarm in summer, and are extremely troublesome. There is not even a ravenous beast in this country, except the great white bear, which very seldom makes its appearance near the Danish colony. The quadrupeds of Greenland are, the rein-deer, foxes, hares, and dogs. The rein deer feed in great herds, and are hunted all the summer by the natives. The hares, which are plentiful, are white, very fat in summer, and of exquisite flavour. The foxes are smaller, and not so hairy as those of Denmark and Norway, and are of variety of colours, as white, grey, and bluish. Dogs are pretty numerous here: they are generally large and rough, and either white or speckled, with ears standing upright. They never bark, but sometimes make a hideous howling. In the northern parts the natives yoke them in sledges, which though heavy laden, they will draw upon the ice at the rate of seventy miles in a short winter's day.

A large kind of partridge is found in great abundance in Greenland: they are white in winter, and grey in summer. Sparrows are also pretty numerous, with snow-birds, ice-birds, and a sort of linnet that warbles very melodiously. Ravens appear in great numbers about the huts of the inhabitants, hovering over the carcases of the seals, with which the ground is generally strewed. Here are also eagles of great magnitude, with large speckled owls, and falcons of different colours. Spiders, flies, humble bees, and wasps are also seen in this country; but neither frogs, beetles, ants, rats, or mice.

Of all the animals upon this coast, that which chiefly contributes to the subsistence and convenience of the natives, is the seal. The flesh of

This creature serves for food to the Greenlanders; the skin furnishes them with cloaths, as well as with a covering for their boats and tents; their fat supplies the lamp, affording them a good light, and is even used by them as fuel to cook their provisions.

The Greenland seas abound with turbot, hollybut, cod, haddock, scate, and small salmon. Abundance of whittings visit this coast, and a fish resembling a bream, with prickles all over its body, reckoned delicious eating. Among the testaceous fishes of Greenland, we find large delicate muscles in great quantities, some of them containing small pearls. The shores are frequented by crabs and shrimps, but here are no craw-fish nor lobsters.

Birds called Eider-fowl swarm in such numbers, that they seem to cover the whole surface of the ocean. In the winter they hover about the Danish colony in myriads; standing in for the bay every evening, and taking their flight towards the sea in the morning. In the spring they repair to the islands about the coast, in order to lay their eggs and produce their young, and in the months of June or July, return to the main land. The natives rob them of their eggs and young, but ignorantly leave in the nests the fine down feathers so much valued in other countries. Of the duck species, there are three sorts common in this climate. But the most beautiful bird on this coast resembles a lark in size and form; it is arrayed in very gorgeous feathers, and known among the natives by the name of tungoviarseck. The northern parts of Greenland are much frequented by wild-geese, which repair thither from more southern climates in the spring to breed, and return to their former abode in the beginning of winter.

By the best accounts we can obtain, the whole number of stated inhabitants, does not exceed
nine

nine hundred and sixty; but Crantz, who has given us the latest accounts of this country, supposes the roving southlanders of Greenland to amount to about seven thousand. They are doubtless the descendants of those Schellings, who exterminated the first Iceland colony, and bear a near resemblance to the Laplanders and Samoides, in their persons and manner of living.

A weakness in the eyes is a common complaint among them. This disorder is occasioned by the sharp and piercing winds, and augmented by the white glare reflected from the ice and snow, with which the whole country is overspread.

In their dispositions, the Greenlanders are cold, phlegmatic, indolent, and slow of apprehension; but very quiet, orderly, and good-natured. Though unrestrained by law or regular discipline, they live peaceably together, like brothers, without envy, strife, or animosity. If a murder should be committed among them, which is a very uncommon case, no cognizance is taken of the murderer unless the nearest kinsman of the deceased thinks proper to revenge his death. They never pilfer from each other, but they are not scrupulous with respect to strangers, whom they pillage without remorse. Adultery is unknown among these savages, except upon some occasions, when they are permitted to converse with each other's wives promiscuously. They are, in general, civil, modest, and hospitable, but slovenly and filthy in the extreme.

The garments for both sexes are made of the skins of seals and rein-deer; and, when they mean to be finer than ordinary, they wear jackets of bird's skins, nicely prepared. The men wear a coat reaching down to the knees, with the hairy side of the skin turned inwards; and to this coat or jacket, a cap or hood is sewed to cover the head and shoulders. Their breeches and stockings are

made of the same stuff, and their boots of seal-skin, well tanned, and neatly wrought: a large frock of dressed seal-skin is worn over the jacket, to keep out the water. Since their communication with the Danes, some of the Greenlanders appear in linen shirts, cloth coats, and breeches, but they have them fashioned according to their own mode: they also purchase woollen stockings of various colours. The females wear wider and longer coats, for the convenience of carrying their infants at their backs, wrapped up in the skirts of them. Their drawers extend to the middle of the thigh, but their breeches come down to the knees. Next to their body they wear waistcoats made of fawn's skin, with the hair inwards. Their coat, or upper garment, is made of swans skin, or seal-skin trimmed with a white border, and embroidered on the seams. The hair of the head, which is very long and sleek, is braided and tied up in a knot. They adorn their necks, arms, and ears with beads, corals, pendants, and bracelets of black skin, set with pearls. They also embellish their persons by staining their foreheads, chins, arms, legs, and thighs with black streaks, indented in the skin by means of a needle and coloured thread. The women are hard-favoured, fluttish, and filthy, especially those who have had children.

The Greenlanders feed upon the flesh of reindeer, hares, whales, seals, patridges, and all sorts of sea-fowl. Sometimes they eat their flesh-meat raw, and sometimes they boil it, or dry it in the sun and wind. Their fish is always thoroughly dried, or completely boiled. Their drink is the simple element, cooled with lumps of ice and snow; but they prefer the blood of the dog-fish to any other beverage. They can, however, drink a great deal of brandy without being intoxicated.

The

The form of their marriages is very simple; the man proposes the match to the parents or relations of the female, and having obtained their consent goes to the bride, accompanied and assisted by two old women. The young woman, to preserve an appearance of chastity, is obliged to struggle; and, when brought by force to the house of the bridegroom, sits retired in a corner, with her hair dishevelled, and her face covered. The man, in the mean time, with all his rhetoric and address, endeavours to soften her into a compliance with his wishes: the tender creature, melted by his eloquence, at last reluctantly yields, and the consummation immediately ensues. If the bridegroom's father is wealthy, he provides a repast for his neighbours on this occasion, and entertains them with a variety of games, throwing out poles, rafts, knives, and toys, by way of prizes, to the winners. The Greenland wives submit to chastisement from their husbands with great resignation.

Parents are fond of their children, even to a culpable excess. After the birth of an infant the mother is swathed round the belly with a broad belt, and the next day returns to her usual occupations. She always carries a child at her back, even when she is at labour, and sometimes suckles it to the third or fourth year.

When a Greenlander dies, the relations throw all his utensils, furniture, and cloaths, out of the house, as impure and unpropitious; and all who dwell in the house are obliged to carry out their effects; but they are brought back in the evening, as by that time they are supposed to be sufficiently purified. They lament the loss of the deceased with tears and hideous howling, and bury him under a heap of stones, dressed in his best apparel, with his legs bent under his back; being

being first carefully wrapped up in the skins of rein-deer and seals. Near the place of interment, they deposit the utensils or implements belonging to the deceased of either sex, lest the sight of them should recall the remembrance of their departed friend and renew their grief and affliction. A corpse is always conveyed out of the window, or through the back part of the hut or house in which it expired. Near the grave of a young child they place a dog's head; on the supposition that, as infants have no understanding, they cannot find the way to the land of souls, unless they are guided by the faithful dog.

The pastimes and diversions of the Greenlanders consist of singing, and dancing in an awkward manner, playing at foot-ball, ball and socket, running and wrestling. Their songs are satirical ballads, sung extempore at their assemblies, and accompanied with a kind of drum beaten by the singer, who also entertains the company with strange gesticulations.

The inhabitants of this country have two sorts of habitations; one for winter, and the other for summer. Those intended for the winter are low huts built of stone and turf: on one side are the windows, covered with the transparent membranes of seals and holybuts to admit the light; on the other stand the beds or benches, on which they lie, covered with the skins of seals and rein-deer. Several families live in one of these houses, each possessing a separate apartment. They burn train-oil in their lamps, and, instead of wick, use a kind of dry moss which perfectly answers the purpose. The door is very low, that as little cold air as possible may be admitted. The house within is lined with old skins, and surrounded with benches for the use of the family as well as visitors.

tors. In the summer they dwell in tents, made of long poles in a conical form, covered internally with deer-skins, and outwardly with dressed seal-skins, which the rain cannot pierce.

All the Greenlanders hitherto known, speak the same language, though different dialects prevail in different parts. It abounds with double consonants, and is remarkably guttural.

The savages pay great deference and respect to the Danes, whom they obey as their masters, and hear the truths of the Christian religion without doubting the veracity of their teachers; but, at the same time, they listen with the most mortifying indifference, without retaining the least impression of the gospel. Though many have suffered themselves to be baptised, they still continue slavishly bigotted to the absurdities of their ancient superstition. They believe in the immortality of the soul, and in the existence of a spirit called Torngarsuk, of which, however, they have formed the most ridiculous ideas.

The commodities of Greenland are whale-bone and blubber, train-oil, the skins of reindeer, seals, and foxes, and the horns of sea-unicorns. These they exchange with the Danes for coats, shirts, stockings, rafts, poles, deal-boards, chests, kettles of brass and copper, tin-dishes, plates, knives, hand-saws, needles, angling-hooks, looking-glasses, beads, and other toys.

SPITZBERGEN.

THIS country was discovered by Sir Hugh Willoughby, in 1553, who called it *Greenland*, supposing it to be a continuation of Old Greenland: but it derived the name of *Spitzbergen*, or *Sharp Mountains*, from William Barenty and John Cornelius, two Dutchmen, who pretended to have discovered this country in 1595; and alledged that the coast which Sir Willoughby visited was another country, which the Hollanders have accordingly set down in their maps and charts under *Willoughby Land*; though in fact no such land ever existed. But, long before the voyage of those Dutch adventurers, Stephen Barrows, an English ship-master, sailed to the seventy-eighth degree of latitude, and coasted along a desolate country covered with blue ice, and abounding with water-fowl, as far as the latitude of eighty degrees eleven minutes. This was doubtless Spitzbergen, which exhibits a wild and rugged appearance of sharp icy rocks, piled one upon another. Whether this is a continent or an island, is not yet ascertained; nor how far it extends to the north. Some navigators have conjectured that it joins to Nova Zembla on the south-east; while others are of opinion that between them there is a Tartarean sea.

On the west side of Spitzbergen we find Charles Island, separated from the main land by a narrow strait, called Foreland Ford. Between this place and Muscle-Haven are seen the highest mountains of Spitzbergen, which are chiefly of a red colour, and, from the red reflection of the sun-beams, seem to be on fire. Seven of them, however, appear to be of a fine sky-blue, shooting up with spiral points remarkably sharp and conical. The most commodious place belonging to the island is South Haven, which is large enough to admit forty-sail of ships, securely riding at anchor: here leaks and other damages may be conveniently repaired, and a whole fleet supplied with fresh water from the melting of the snows. This harbour is surrounded with mountains, and in the middle of it lies Dead-man's-Place, so denominated from its being the burying-place of the sea-men and fishermen who died in the voyage. The coast in this neighbourhood is studded with several little isles, known by the name of Fowl-Islands, from the vast numbers of sea-birds hatched upon them. The next large harbour obtained the name of Maurice Bay, from the Dutch mariners, some of whom have wintered in it. There is also a North Bay, in which is an island called by the Hollanders Vogelsang. The other known harbours of Spitzbergen are Deer-Sound and Muscle-Haven.

The cold here, even in summer, is intense, but in the winter absolutely intolerable: it is most rigorous when the wind blows from the north or east; but south and west winds usually bring snow and rain, by which it is moderated. In the months of June, July, and August, the weather is usually calm, especially in July, when the sun shines so hot as to melt the tar between the seams of the ship. This, however, is not the case except in a dead calm;

for the wind, even at this season, blows incredibly cold, and the frost continues without intermission. The sea-water is not so salt here as in more southerly latitudes. When the air is serene, the ocean is so transparent, that a person may see to the depth of twelve or fourteen fathoms.

In Spitzbergen the sun makes its appearance about the middle of February, and disappears about the 1st of October. From the beginning of May to the 1st of August, it continues above the horizon without setting: during that time, the night and day are distinguished by its appearing in the west, or in the eastern part of the heavens.

Spitzbergen exhibits nothing but rugged rocks and naked mountains, whose tops are lost among the clouds; or narrow vallies, choaked up with ice and stones, which have fallen from these mountains. The rivers which have been discovered in this country are all brackish, and no springs have yet been found: but great plenty of snow water is always to be had, which is found to be both agreeable and salubrious.

The dung of those innumerable birds which inhabit the clefts of the rocks, being washed down by the melted snow, mixes with the moss, and forms a rich mould, in some level places near the shore. Hence a variety of plants is produced, among which are scurvy-grass, sorrel, a kind of wild lettuce, mouse-ear, snake-root, ground-ivy, lime-wort, sea-bugloss, heart's-ease, houseleek, wild strawberries, and wall-pepper. These are considered as effectual remedies, supplied by the hand of providence, for the cure of the scurvy, and other diseases which are incident to the adventurers who yearly visit this inhospitable country. Spitzbergen also produces many other plants common in other countries, but

but they are all extremely small, the natural consequence of a scanty soil and an inclement sky. This climate is too rigorous to produce corn, fruits, or kitchen herbs.

The native quadrupeds of Spitzbergen are bears, deer, foxes, seals, and sea-horses. The bears are incredibly large; one of them measured fourteen feet in length, and six in height, and yielded an hundred weight of fat. These animals are white, lean, swift, and extremely fierce. The largest are called water-bears, because they subsist on what the sea affords, and have been seen at the distance of fourteen miles from shore.

The deer of Spitzbergen are large, grey, and shaggy, with long ears, short tails, and branching horns. By feeding on the yellow moss in the summer, they become extremely fat, and their flesh has an exquisite flavour. On this fat they are principally supported through the winter; many of them, however, are starved before the arrival of spring; and those which have weathered the long inclement season, are meagre and emaciated. The foxes of this country, which are pretty numerous, are black, grey, and white.

Few land birds are to be seen in Spitzbergen, except the partridge, which resembles our grouse, and some small birds, that sometimes warble sweetly even in this dreary climate: but of water-fowl here are innumerable swarms of such as are common to all the northern countries of Europe.

The northern sea is the native country of the whale, the most important fish that swims. An ordinary whale yields from seventy to an hundred barrels of blubber. The tongue of an ordinary whale is as large as a woolpack, and will yield six hogsheds of oil,

In

In this latitude the adventurers often meet with another species of the whale, which they call the fin-fish. This animal is as long as the other whale, but not half so thick; yet he blows the water higher, and, from that circumstance, has acquired the name of trumpeter.

In these seas are also found in plenty the whale-rush, morse, or sea-horse, which has some resemblance of the seal in shape, and is about the size of an ox. The morse is a bold, ferocious animal, and, when attacked, turns upon the boat. He sometimes strikes his teeth through the sides of it, and endeavours to leap on board. He is not easily killed with shot or blows: he is therefore usually dispatched with lances. When whales are scarce, it is common for adventurers to make up their voyage with the teeth and oil of this animal.

The whale has a variety of enemies: besides the vermin adhering to his body, he is pursued by the saw-fish, or sword-fish, some of which species are twenty feet in length: his sword projects from his snout, sometimes smooth and sharp like a real sword, sometimes indented like a saw. A few of these animals will attack a large whale, and come off conquerors; but when they have slain him, they eat no part of him but the tongue.

A fish called the hay, which is a kind of shark, is another desperate enemy to the whale. It is seen from six to eighteen feet in length, and is so voracious that it tears large pieces of flesh from the whale. The liver of this fish is very large, and abounds with oil.

Spitzbergen produces neither tree nor shrub, yet plenty of fuel is procured, a vast number of trees being thrown ashore by the sea in this country, as well as on all the northern coasts of Europe.

rope. These are supposed to have been swept down by the great Tartarian rivers, which annually overflow, and discharge themselves into the ocean, where the timber is frozen all the winter, and again set afloat by the thaw in the spring.

South of Spitzbergen, and in the latitude of seventy-four degrees five minutes, we find Cherry-Island; so called in honour of Sir Francis Cherry, who equipped the vessel by which it was discovered, in 1603. The island abounds with wild-fowl, seals, and sea-horses. The Russian company took possession of it in 1610, and discovered on it mines of lead and coal, which might be wrought to great advantage if a colony was settled, and the people could winter on the spot.

John Meyer's Island, so denominated by the Dutch discoverers, lies to the south-west of Spitzbergen. A perpendicular mountain, of a prodigious height, extends from north to south across the whole island. It is distinguished by the name of Bear Mountain, on account of the great number of those animals which have been seen upon it. This island, though generally barren, affords pasture for large herds of deer. The extremity of it is found in the latitude of seventy-one degrees twenty-three minutes.

FRANCE.

F R A N C E.

GALLIA, the ancient name of this kingdom, was given it by its inhabitants the *Celte*; but it acquired its modern name from the Franks, a German nation who came from Franconia in the fifth century, conquered the ancient inhabitants, and fixed themselves in that part of Gaul which lies north of the river Loire. Its length, from the Pyrenean mountains in the south to Dunkirk in the north, is eight degrees and an half, or five hundred and ten miles; and its breadth, from the most westerly point in Britany to Strasburgh in Alsace, four hundred and ninety-five miles. It is bounded on the north by St. George's-Channel and the Netherlands; on the east by Germany, Switzerland, and Italy; on the south by the Mediterranean and Pyrenean mountains; and on the west by the bay of Biscay.

The air is temperate and salubrious, especially in the interior provinces; it is warmer than in the northern kingdoms, but not so hot as in Spain or Italy. The weather is also clearer and more settled than it is in England. France is happy in an excellent soil, which produces corn, wine, oil, and almost every luxury of life. It is not, however, without barren tracts and mountains. Of the latter, the principal are the Alps, which di-

divide it from Italy ; the Pyrenees, which separate it from Spain ; and the Cevennes, in the province of Languedoc ; with mount Dor in that of Auvergne ; and mount Jura which divides Franche-Compté from Switzerland.

The principal rivers in France are the Loire, the Rhone, the Garonne, and the Seine. The Loire rises in the Cevennes, and falls into the bay of Biscay below Nantes ; the Rhone springs in Switzerland, and discharges itself into the Mediterranean. The Garonne rises in the Pyrenean mountains, and is received into the bay of Biscay below Bourdeaux ; having a communication with the Mediterranean, by means of the canal of Languedoc, the work of Lewis XIV. The Seine, anciently Sequana, has its source in Burgundy, passes to the north-west, visits Troyes, Paris, and Rouen, and falls into the English channel between Havre-de-Grace and Honfleur. To these may be added the Soane, the Bharente, the Rhine, the Somme, the Var, and the Adour.

France is not sufficiently improved by culture ; yielding, even in plentiful years, little more corn than is necessary for the consumption of their own inhabitants ; they have therefore a great scarcity after an indifferent harvest. A variety of excellent wines are produced here ; but those of Champagne, Burgundy, Bourdeaux, Pontack, Hermitage, and Frontiniac, are highly esteemed. Some provinces produce great quantities of olives, others abound in apples, capers, prunes, flax, hemp, silk, and wool. The Pyrenees, Lorraine, Alsace, and Burgundy, supply the natives with ship-timber, but fuel is scarce in many parts of France. Metals and minerals are found in many parts of the kingdom ; particularly copper, iron, lead, pit-coal, salt-petre, and marble ; and

sometimes even gold and silver. Warm baths, and mineral waters, are also to be met with in many places.

The principal forest in France is that of Orleans, which consists of fourteen thousand acres, and is planted with wood of various kinds, as oak, ash, elm, &c. The forest of Fontainebleau is almost as large. There is another near Morchilmoir. Besides these, a great number of woods are found in different provinces, but at too great a distance from the sea, or navigable rivers, to be of much public utility.

Few animals are seen in France, but what are also common to England, excepting wolves. The horses, black cattle, and sheep of that country, are much inferior to those of English production; the wool of their sheep is also coarser; but the hair and skin of the mountain goats, or chamois, are more valuable than those of England.

Substance of the French Constitution, as finally settled by the National Constituent Assembly, and presented to the King the 3d. Sept. 1791.

Declaration of the Rights of Man, and of the Citizens.

ALL men are born, and remain, free and equal in rights: social distinctions cannot be founded but on common utility.

The end of all political associations is the preservation of the natural and imprescriptible rights of man: these rights are liberty, property, security, and resistance against oppression.

The principle of sovereignty resides essentially in the nation: no body of men, no individual, can exercise an authority that does not emanate expressly from that source.

Liberty

Liberty consists in the power of doing every thing except that which is hurtful to another: hence, the exercise of the natural rights of every man, has no other bounds than those that are necessary to ensure to other members of society the enjoyment of the same rights: those bounds to be determined by the law only.

The law has a right to forbid those actions alone, that are hurtful to society. Whatever is not forbidden by the law, cannot be hindered; and no person can be constrained to do that which the law ordaineth not.

The law is the expression of the general will: all the citizens have a right to concur personally, or by their representatives, in the formation of the law: it ought to be the same for all, whether it protect, or whether it punish. All citizens being equal in the eye of the law, are equally admissible to public honour, places and offices, according to their capacity, and without any other distinction but that of their virtue, or their talents.

No man can be accused, arrested, or detained, except in cases determined by the law, and according to the forms which the law hath prescribed.

The law ought to establish such punishments only as are strictly and evidently necessary; and no person can be punished, but in virtue of a law established and promulgated prior to the offence, and legally applied.

No person should be molested for his opinions, even such as are religious, provided that the manifestation of those opinions does not disturb the public order established by the law.

The free communication of thought and of opinion, is one of the most precious rights of man. Every citizen, therefore, may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments; subject, however, to

answer for the abuse of that liberty, in cases determined by the law.

The guarantee of the rights of men and citizens involves a necessity of *public force*. This force is then instituted for the advantage of all, and not for the particular utility of those to whom it is confided.

For the maintenance of the public force, and for the expences of administration, a common contribution is indispensably necessary: this contribution should be equally divided amongst all the citizens, in proportion to their abilities.

The national assembly abolishes, irrevocably, those institutions which are injurious to liberty, and equality of rights.

There is no longer any *nobility*, nor *peerage*, nor *hereditary distinctions*, nor *difference of orders*, nor *feudal government*, nor *patrimonial jurisdiction*, nor any of the *titles*, *denominations* and *prerogatives* which are derived from them; nor any of the orders of *chivalry*, *corporations*, or *decorations*, for which proofs of nobility were required; nor any kind of superiority, but that of public functionaries in the exercise of their functions.

No part of the nation, nor any individual, can henceforth possess any *privilege* or *exception* from the common rights of all Frenchmen.

The law recognizes no longer any *religious vows*, nor any other engagement which would be contrary to natural rights, or to the constitution.

Fundamental Regulations guaranteed by the Constitution.

THE constitution guarantees, as natural and civil rights,

1. That all the citizens are admissible to places and employments without any other distinction than that of *virtue* and *talents*.

2. That

2. That all taxes shall be equally divided among all the citizens, in proportion to their abilities.

3. That the same crimes shall be subject to the same punishments, without any distinction of persons.

Liberty to the citizens to assemble peaceably, and without arms, in complying with the laws of police.

Liberty to address to the constituted authorities, petitions signed by individuals.

The constitution guarantees the inviolability of property.

Property, destined to the expence of worship, and to all services of public utility, belongs to the nation, and shall at all times be at its disposal.

The constitution guarantees all the alienations which have been, or which shall be made according to the forms established by the law.

The citizens have a right to elect or chuse the ministers of their religions.

There shall be created and organised, a general establishment of *public aid* for the education of deserted children, to relieve the infirm poor, and to procure work for the healthy poor, who have not been able to find it for themselves.

Of the Division of the Kingdom, and the State of the Citizens.

THE kingdom is *one and indivisible*; its territory is divided into eighty-three departments; every department into districts; each district into cantons.

Those are *French Citizens*,

Who are born in France, of a French father.

Who, having been born in France, of a foreign father, have fixed their residence in the kingdom :

Who, having been born in a foreign country, of a French father, have returned to settle in France, and have taken the civic oath.

In fine, who having been born in a foreign country, being descended in whatever degree, from a Frenchman or Frenchwoman who had left their country from religious motives, come to reside in France, and take the civic oath.

Those who having been born out of the kingdom, of foreign parents, but reside in France, become French citizens, after five years of continued residence in the kingdom, if, besides, they have acquired immoveable property, or married a Frenchwoman, or formed an establishment of agriculture or commerce, and if they have taken a civic oath.

The civic oath is, "*I swear to be faithful to the Nation, the Law, and the King; and to maintain, with all my power, the constitution of the kingdom, decreed by the National Constituent Assembly, in the years 1789, 1790, and 1791,*"

The law regards marriage solely as a civil contract.

The legislative power may fix the extent and boundary of each community.

The citizens who compose each community, have a right of choosing, for a time, according to the forms prescribed by the law, those among them, who, under the name of municipal officers, are charged with the management of the particular affairs of the community.

To the *municipal officers* may be delegated, certain functions relative to the general interest of the state.

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The rules which the municipal officers shall be bound to follow in the exercise, both of the municipal functions, and of those which shall be delegated to them for the general interest, shall be fixed by the laws.

Of the Public Powers.

THE French constitution is *representative*; their representatives are the legislative body and the king.

The legislative power is delegated to a national assembly, composed of temporary representatives, freely chosen by the people, to be exercised by this assembly with the sanction of the king.

The government is monarchical; the executive power is delegated to the king, to be exercised under his authority, by ministers and other responsible agents, in manner afterwards determined.

The judicial power is delegated to judges chosen for a time by the people.

Of the National Legislative Assembly.

THE national assembly, forming the legislative body, is permanent, and consists of one chamber only.

It shall be formed by new elections every two years.

Each period of two years shall form one legislature.

The dispositions of the preceding articles shall not take place with respect to the ensuing legislative body, whose powers shall cease the last day of April 1793.

The

The renewal of the legislative body shall be matter of full right.

The legislative body cannot be dissolved by the king.

Number of Representatives—Bases of Representation.

The number of representatives to the legislative body is seven hundred and forty-five, on account of the eighty-three departments of which the kingdom is composed, and independent of those that may be granted to the colonies.

The representatives shall be distributed among the eighty three departments, according to the three proportions of territory, of population, and of direct contribution.

Of the 745 representatives, 247 are attached to the territory.

Of these each department shall nominate three, except the department of Paris, which shall only nominate one.

Two hundred and forty-nine representatives are attributed to the population.

The total mass of the active population of the kingdom is divided into 249 parts, and each department nominates as many of the deputies as it contains parts of the population.

Two hundred and forty nine representatives are attached to the direct contribution.

The sum total of the direct contribution of the kingdom is divided into 249 parts, and each department nominates as many deputies as it pays parts of the contribution.

Primary

Primary Assemblies—Nomination of Electors.

IN order to form a national legislative assembly, the active citizens shall meet every two years, in primary assemblies, in the towns and cantons.

The primary assemblies shall form themselves, of full right, the second Sunday of March, if they have not been convoked sooner by the public officers established by law.

To be an active citizen, it is necessary, to be born, or to have become a Frenchman; to be twenty-five years of age complete; to have resided in the city or canton during the time determined by the law;

To pay, in any part of the kingdom, a direct contribution, at least equal to the value of three days labour, and to produce the acquittance;

Not to be in a menial capacity, namely, that of a servant receiving wages;

To be inscribed in the municipality of the place of his residence, in the list of the national guards;

To have taken the civic oath.

Those shall be excluded from the rights of an active citizen, who are in a state of accusation;

Who, after having been constituted in a state of failure, or insolvency, proved by authentic documents, shall not produce a general discharge from their creditors.

Meeting of the Representatives in the National Legislative Assembly.

THE representatives shall assemble on the first Monday of May, in the place of the meeting of the last legislature.

They shall form themselves, provisionally, into an assembly, under the presidency of the eldest, to verify the powers of the representatives present.

As soon as these may be verified to the number of 373 members, they shall constitute themselves under the title of the *National Legislative Assembly*; they shall name a president, vice-president, and secretaries, and enter upon the exercise of their functions.

During the whole time of the month of May, if the number of the representatives present fall short of 373, the Assembly shall not perform any legislative act. They may issue an arret, enjoining the absent members to attend to their functions within fifteen days at farthest, under a penalty of 3000 livres, if they do not produce an excuse which shall be deemed lawful by the legislative body.

On the last day of May, whatever be the number of members present, they shall constitute themselves a National Legislative Assembly.

The representatives shall pronounce in a body, in the name of the French people, the oath, "*to live free or die.*"

They shall then individually take the oath, *to maintain with all their power, the constitution of the kingdom, decreed by the National Constituent Assembly, during the years 1789, 1790, and 1791; to propose or assent to nothing in the course of the legisla-*

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ture which may at all tend to infringe it; and to be, in every respect, faithful to the Nation, the Law, and the King.

The representatives of the nation are inviolable; they cannot be examined, accused, or adjudged at any time with respect to what they have said, written, or done, in the exercise of their functions of representatives.

They may for a crime be seized in the act, or in virtue of an order of arrest; but notice shall be given of it, without delay to the legislative body; and the prosecution shall not be continued, till after the legislative body shall have decided that there is ground for accusation.

Of the Royalty and the King.

THE Royalty is indivisible, and delegated hereditarily to the race on the throne, from male to male, by order of primogeniture, to the perpetual exclusion of women and their descendants.

The person of the king is sacred and inviolable: his only title is *King of the French*.

There is no authority in France superior to that of the law. The king reigns only by it, and it is only in the name of the law that he can require obedience.

The king on his accession to the throne, or at the period of his majority, shall take to the nation, in the presence of the legislative body, the oath, "*To be faithful to the Nation, and to the Law; to employ all the power delegated to him, to maintain the Constitution decreed by the National Constituent Assembly in the years 1789, 1790, and 1791; and to cause the laws to be executed.*"

If the legislative body shall not be assembled, the king shall cause a proclamation to be issued in which shall be expressed this oath, and a promise to repeat it as soon as the legislative bodies shall assemble.

If, one month after an invitation by the legislative body, the king has taken this oath, or if after taking it shall retract, he shall be deemed to have abdicated the royalty.

If the king put himself at the head of an army, and direct the forces of it against the nation, or if he do not oppose, by a formal act, any such enterprize undertaken in his name, he shall be deemed to have abdicated.

If the king, having gone out of the kingdom, do not return on the invitation of the legislative body, and within the delay fixed by the proclamation which cannot be less than two months, he shall be deemed to have abdicated.

The delay shall commence from the day when the proclamation of the legislative body shall have been published in the place of its sitting; and the ministers shall be obliged under their responsibility to perform all the acts of the executive power, the exercise of which shall be suspended in the hands of the absent king.

After abdication, express or legal, the king shall be in the class of citizens, and may be accused and tried like them, for acts posterior to his abdication.

The particular effects which the king possesses at his accession to the throne, are irrevocably united to the domain of the nation: he has the disposition of those which he acquires on his own private account; if he has not disposed of them, they are in like manner united at the end of the reign.

The

The nation makes provision for the splendour of the throne by a civil list, of which the legislative body shall fix the sum at the commencement of each reign, for the whole duration of that reign.

The king shall appoint an administrator of the civil list, who shall commence all suits for the king, and against whom all actions for debts of the king shall be carried on, and judgments given and executed. Sentences of condemnation, obtained by the creditors of the civil list, shall be executed against the administrator personally and his private fortune.

The king shall have, independent of the honorary guard which shall be furnished him by the citizens, national guards of the place of his residence, a guard paid from the funds of the civil list. It shall not exceed 1200 foot, and 600 horse.

The degrees and rules of advancement shall be the same in it as among the troops of the line. But those who compose the king's guards, shall pass through all the degrees exclusively amongst themselves, and cannot obtain any in the army of the line.

The king cannot chuse his guards, but among those who are at present in active service in the troops of the line, or amongst the citizens who have served a year in the national guards, provided they are residents in the kingdom, and that they have previously taken the civic oath.

The king's guards cannot be ordered or required for any other public service.

Of the Regency.

THE king is a minor till the age of eighteen complete; and during his minority, there shall be a regent of the kingdom.

The regency belongs to the relation of the king, who is the next in degree according to the order of succession to the throne, and who has attained the age of twenty-five, provided he be a Frenchman resident in the kingdom, and not presumptive heir to any other crown, and have taken the civic oath.

Women are excluded from the regency.

If a minor king have no relations who unite the above qualities, the regent of the kingdom shall be elected.

Of the Royal Family.

THE presumptive heir shall bear the name of *Prince Royal*. He cannot go out of the kingdom, without a decree of the legislative body, and the king's consent.

If he is gone out of it, and if, being arrived at eighteen years of age, he do not return to France, after being required by a proclamation of the legislative body, he is held to have abdicated the right of succession to the throne.

If the presumptive heir be a minor, the relation of full age, and next in order to the regency, is bound to reside within the kingdom. In case of his going out of it, and not returning on the requisition of the legislative body, he shall be held to have abdicated his right to the regency.

Ex-

Excepting the places of ministers, the members of the royal family are capable of offices and employs in the nomination of the king, however they cannot be commanders in chief of any army or fleet, nor fulfil the functions of ambassadors, without the consent of the legislative body, granted on the proposition of the king.

The members of the royal family, called to the eventual succession to the throne, shall add the denomination of *French Prince*.

The denomination of *Prince* cannot be given to any other individual, and shall convey no privilege, nor any exception, to the common rights of all Frenchmen.

The younger sons of the king shall receive, at the age of twenty-five, or on their marriage, an annuity, the amount of which shall be fixed by the legislative body, and which shall terminate with the extinction of their male heirs.

Of Ministers.

TO the king alone belongs the choice and revocation of ministers.

The members of the present national assembly, and succeeding legislatures, the members of the tribunal of annulment, and those who shall serve in the high jury, cannot be advanced to the ministry, nor receive any offices, gifts, pensions, salaries, or commissions from the executive power, or its agents, during the continuance of their functions, nor during two years after having finished the exercise of them.

No order of the king can be executed, if it be not signed by him, and countersigned by the minister or comptroller of the department.

The

The ministers are responsible for all the offences committed by them against the national safety and the constitution.

Powers and Functions of the National Legislative Assembly.

THE constitution delegates exclusively to the legislative body, the powers and functions following :

1. To propose and decree laws : the king can only invite the legislative body to take an object into consideration.
2. To fix the public expences.
3. To establish the public contributions—to determine their nature, quantity, duration, and mode of collection.
4. To divide the direct contribution amongst the departments of the kingdom—to superintend the employ of all the public revenue, and to demand an account of it.
5. To decree the creation or suppression of public offices.
6. To determine the quality, weight, impression, and name of the coin.
7. To permit or prohibit the introduction of foreign troops into the French territories, and of foreign naval forces into the ports of the kingdom.
8. To fix annually after the proposition of the king, the number of men and ships of which the land and naval armies shall be composed ; the pay and number of individuals of each rank ; the rules of admission and promotion : the forms of enrolment and discharge, the formation of naval equipments ; the admission of foreign troops or naval forces into the service of France ; and the pay of troops, in case of their being disbanded.
9. To

9. To regulate the administrative government, and the alienation of the national domains.

10. To persecute before the high national court, the ministers and principal agents of the executive power, in what relates to their responsibility.

To accuse and prosecute before the same court, those who shall be charged with any attack or conspiracy against the general safety of the state, or against the constitution.

11. To establish the laws, according to which marks of honour or decoration, purely personal, shall be granted to those who have rendered services to the state.

12. The legislative body have the right to decree public honours to the memory of great men.

War cannot be determined on, but by a decree of the legislative body passed on the formal and necessary proposition of the king, and sanctioned by him.

During the whole course of war, the legislative body may require the king to negotiate peace, and the king is bound to yield to this requisition.

It belongs to the legislative body to ratify treaties of peace, alliance, and commerce, and no treaty shall have effect but by this ratification.

Holding of the Sitzings, and Form of deliberating.

THE deliberations of the legislative body shall be public, and the proceedings of its sittings shall be printed.

The legislative body, may, however, on any occasion, form itself into a *general committee*.

Fifty members shall have a right to demand this.

During the continuance of the general committee, the assistants shall retire, the chair of the president shall be vacant, and order shall be maintained by the vice-president.

No legislative act can be debated and decreed, except in the following form:

The plan of a decree shall be read thrice, at three intervals, the shortest of which cannot be less than eight days.

The legislative body cannot deliberate, if the meeting do not consist of at least two hundred members: and no decree shall be made, except by the absolute majority of votes.

Of the Royal Sanction.

THE decrees of the legislative body are presented to the king, who may refuse his assent to them.

In the case of a refusal of the royal assent, that refusal is only *suspensive*.

When the two following legislatures which shall follow that in which the decree was presented, shall successively represent the same decree in the same terms in which it was originally conceived, the king shall be deemed to have given his sanction.

The assent of the king is expressed to each decree, by the following *formula*, signed by the king: *The king consents, and will cause it to be executed.*

The suspensive refusal is thus expressed: *The king will examine.*

The king is bound to express his assent or refusal, to each decree, within two months after it shall have been presented.

No

No decree to which the king has refused his assent, can be presented to him by the same legislature.

The decree sanctioned by the king, and those which have been presented to him by three successive legislatures, alone have the force of a law, and bear the name and title of *laws*.

There shall be, however, executed as laws, without being subjected to sanction, those acts of the legislative body which relate to its constitution as a deliberating assembly.

Connexion of the Legislative Body with the King.

WHEN the legislative body is definitively constituted, it shall send a deputation to inform the king. The king may every year open the session, and propose the objects, which, during its continuance, he thinks ought to be taken into consideration; this form, however, is not to be considered as *necessary* to the activity of the legislative body.

The king shall convoke the legislative body, during the interval of its session, at all times when the interest of the state shall appear to him to require it, as well as in those cases which the legislative body shall have foreseen and determined, previous to their adjournment.

The ministers of the king shall have admission into the national legislative assembly; and shall have a place assigned to them.

Of the Exercise of the Executive Power.

THE *supreme* executive power resides exclusively in the hands of the king.

The king is the supreme head of the general administration of the kingdom: the care of watching over the maintenance of public order and tranquillity is entrusted to him.

The king is the supreme head of the land and sea forces.

To the king is delegated the care of watching over the exterior security of the kingdom, and of maintaining its right and possessions.

The king names ambassadors, and the other agents of political negotiations.

He bestows the command of armies and fleets, and the ranks of marshal of France and admiral.

He names two thirds of the rear-admirals, one half of the lieutenant-generals, camp marshals, captains of the ships, and colonels of the national gendarmerie.

He names a third of the colonels and lieutenant colonels, and a sixth of the lieutenants of ships—the whole in conformity to the laws with respect to promotion.

He appoints, in the civil administration of the marine, the directors, the comptrollers, the treasurers of the arsenals, the masters of the works, the under masters of civil buildings, half of the masters of administration, and of the under-masters of construction.

He appoints the commissaries of the tribunals.

He superintends the coinage of money, and appoints the officers entrusted with this superintendence in the general commission and the mints.

The effigy of the king is to be struck on all the coinage of the kingdom.

Of the Promulgation of Laws.

THE executive power is charged with ordering the seal of state to be put to laws, and causing them to be promulgated.

It is equally charged with causing to be promulgated and executed, those acts of the legislative body, which have no need of the sanction of the king.

The executive power cannot make any law, not even provisional, but merely proclamations, conformable to the laws, to ordain or enforce the execution.

Of the Interior Administration.

THERE is in each department a superior administration, and in each district a subordinate administration.

The administrators have no character of representation.

They are agents, chosen for a time by the people to exercise, under the superintendence, and the authority of the king, the administrative functions.

Of external Connections.

THE king alone can keep up foreign political connections, conduct negotiations, make preparations of war, proportioned to those of the neighbouring states; distribute the land and sea forces, as he shall judge most suitable, and regulate their direction in case of war.

Every

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Every declaration of war shall be made in these terms: *By the king of the French, in the name of the nation.*

It belongs to the king to resolve and sign with all foreign powers, all treaties of peace, alliance and commerce, and other conventions, which he shall judge necessary for the welfare of the state, with a reserve for the ratification of the legislative body.

Of the Judicial Power.

THE judicial power can in no case be exercised, either by the legislative body, or the king.

Justice shall be gratuitously rendered by judges chosen for a time by the people, instituted by letters patent of the king, who cannot refuse to grant them. They cannot be deposed, but for forfeiture duly judged; nor suspended, but for an accusation admitted.

In *criminal* matters, no citizen can be tried, but on an accusation received by a jury, or decreed by the legislative body, in the cases where it belongs to it to pursue the accusation.

After the admission of the accusation, the fact shall be recognised and declared by a jury.

The accused shall have a right to refuse, as far twenty jurors, without assigning reasons.

The jury which declares the fact, cannot be of fewer than twelve members.

The application of the law shall be made by judges.

The instruction of the process shall be public, and the assistance of counsel cannot be refused to the accused.

No man acquitted by a lawful jury, can be retaken or accused on account of the same fact.

Every

Every man seized upon and conducted before an officer of police, shall be examined immediately, or at latest twenty-four hours.

If it result from the examination, that there be no ground for blame against him he shall be directly set at liberty; or if there be ground to send him to a house of arrest, he shall be conducted there with the least delay possible, and that in any case cannot exceed three days.

No man arrested can be detained if he gave sufficient bail, in all cases where the law permits a man to remain free under bail.

No man in the cases when detention is authorised by the law, can be conducted or detained any where, but in those places legally and publicly marked out as houses of arrest, of justice, or prisons.

The public force is instituted to defend the state against external enemies, and to maintain internal order and the execution of the laws.

It is composed, of the land and sea armies; of the troops specially destined for home service;

And, subsidiarily, of the active citizens, and their children of age to bear arms, registered in the roll of national guards.

The national guards do not form a military body, or an institution in the state: they are the citizens themselves, called to assist public force.

The citizens can never embody themselves, or act as national guards, but by virtue of a legal requisition of authority.

They are subject in this quality to an organization, to be determined by the law.

They shall be distinguished in the whole kingdom, by only one form of discipline, and one uniform.

Distinctions of rank and subordination, subsist only relative to the service, and during its continuance.

Off.

Officers are chosen for a time, and cannot again be chosen till after a certain interval of service as soldiers.

Of Public Contributions.

PUBLIC contributions shall be debated and fixed every year by the legislative body, and cannot continue in force longer than the last day of the following session, if they are not expressly renewed.

The funds necessary to the discharge of the national debt, and the payment of the civil list, can, under no pretext, be refused or suspended.

The salaries of the ministers of the catholic religion, who are paid, preserved, elected, or named in virtue of the decrees of the national constituent assembly, form a part of the national debt.

The legislative body cannot in any case, charge the nation, with the payment of the debts of any individual.

Of the Connexion with the French Nation with other Nations.

THE French nation renounces the undertaking of any war with a view to make conquests, and will never employ its forces against the liberty of any people.

The constitution no longer admits the Droit d'Aubaine.

Foreigners, whether settled in France or not, inherit the property of their parents, whether foreigners or Frenchmen.

They

They can contract, acquire and receive, properties situated in France, and dispose of it as well as any French citizen, in every mode authorised by the laws.

Of the Revision of Constitutional Decrees.

THE National Constituent Assembly declares, that the nation has an imprescriptible right to change its constitution; and nevertheless considering that it is most suitable to the national interest to make use, only by means appointed by the constitution itself, of the right of reforming those articles which experience shall demonstrate the inconvenience of, decrees, that the assembly of revision shall proceed in the following manner:

When three following legislatures shall have declared an uniform wish for the change of any constitutional article, the revision demanded shall take place,

THE established religion of France is the Roman catholic. The Gallican church has more than once attempted to shake off the yoke of the popes, and made a considerable progress in the attempt during the reign of Lewis XIV. France never would admit the inquisition, and the power of the clergy is much more limited, and more subject to the civil magistrate in that country, than in others of that persuasion.

The only limitation upon the king of France, in ecclesiastical matters, is the concordat, made in 1515, between Francis I. and pope Leo X.

France has made great improvements with regard to manufactures. Very beautiful works in tapestry, filigree, and sculpture, are executed at the Gobelins, in Paris: a great number of persons are employed there in the article of tapestry alone; and the flourishing state of the arts and manufactures in France, is greatly owing to this

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establishment. The silk manufacture arrived at great perfection under Lewis XIV. and, at this day, the city of Lyons is distinguished above all others, for its wonderful skill and ingenuity in this respect. Even in woollen manufactures, the French have made considerable progress; those of Abbeville are supposed to be little inferior to the English or Dutch. In many articles, however, the artizans of France are surpassed by those of England; and their trade and manufactures suffered greatly by the persecution and exile of the protestants in the reign of Lewis XIV.

Since the late revolution, however, trade, agriculture, and manufactures have much declined, and the liberty of France is not yet accompanied with any thing but anarchy, poverty, and confusion.

Their foreign trade, however, to Italy and Turkey, from the south of France, to the West and East-Indies, the Baltic, and the North, from the ports in the ocean and the English channel, is still very considerable.

Many of the cities of France have privilege of coinage, and have a particular mark to distinguish their respective pieces. But these coinages are under the inspection of the *cours des monnoies*, or mint-courts of Paris, Lyons, and Pau. Accounts are kept in France, in livres, sous, and deniers. Twelve deniers amount to a sol or sou, which is about equal to an English halfpenny, and twenty sous make a livre. The denier is a small copper piece; but both sous and livres are imaginary coins, like the pound sterling used in keeping English accounts. Another small copper coin is current in France, called a liard, and is equal to three deniers. The value of an ecu is two shillings and six-pence, a louis-blanc five shillings, a pistole eight shilling and four-pence, and a louis-d'or twenty-one shillings.

The

The French, in their persons, are rather shorter than their neighbours, and not quite so robust and large; but they are active and well proportioned, and more exempt from bodily deformities than other nations are. Their complexions are, in general, dark or fallow, which probably gave rise to the custom of painting their faces, so prevalent among the ladies. The women in France are indeed more celebrated for vivacity and wit, than personal beauty. The superior people are particularly careful to accomplish themselves in the exercises of dancing, fencing, and riding, in all which they generally excel their neighbours in point of gracefulness. Some of the princes of the blood, and a few of the nobility, are more magnificent in their palaces and equipages than any of the English; but the other ranks of life are despicable, when compared with the riches, elegance, and opulence of the nobility and gentry of England, even of those of an inferior class.

The French are remarkable for their sprightliness and levity; but a national vanity is their predominant character; they are seldom dejected by misfortunes, and this vanity impels them to actions to which true courage inspires other nations. But this character is only conspicuous in the higher and middling ranks, where it produces excellent officers; the common soldiers of France having few ideas of heroism. Hence it has been justly observed of the French and English, that the French officers will lead if their soldiers will follow; and the English soldiers will follow if their officers will lead.

Freedom and wit is much affected by these volatile people, but too much of their conversation is engrossed by fashionable dresses and diversions. The public diversions, in many particular,

ticulars, resemble those of England, but their gallantry is of a very different complexion. Their great attention to the fair degenerates into ridiculous foppery in the men, and in the ladies it is supported by admitting of those freedoms which would be thought indecent in many other countries; but these seeming levities are seldom attended with that criminality which they seem to indicate, to those who are unacquainted with their manners. Nor are their husbands so indifferent as many travellers have imagined, about the conduct of their wives.

In politeness, courtesy, and good breeding, says Dr. Moore, the French are eminently distinguished. These qualities are observable, though in different proportions, through every rank, from people of the first distinction to the lowest mechanic. It is indeed singularly remarkable, that politeness, which in all other countries is confined to those of a certain rank in life, should here pervade every profession and situation. Of all people in the world the French bear adversity with the best grace; but, in prosperity, many of them become insolent, vain, arbitrary, and imperious. *Moore's Tr.* i. 26.

The French have been frequently accused of insincerity; the charge, in some degree may be admitted; but they generally draw on themselves this imputation by their excess of civility, which throws a suspicious light upon their candour. In private life they have many amiable characters; and many instances of the most disinterested generosity may be found among them.

It would be injustice not to acknowledge that the French, from their politeness, have given a polish to the rude or ferocious manners of other nations. Long have they taken the lead in fashion, dress, and taste; but they now think favour-

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Id. 27

ably of the English, and even attempt to imitate them in their manners, customs, buildings, and amusements. The English language is studied among people of the first fashion; and the best literary productions are held sacred among the French of any education.

The French have many good qualities, and are certainly a very agreeable people to reside among, at least for a time. Their great attention to strangers deserves much commendation, and renders their company highly agreeable to all travellers.

By the latest and best calculations, it appears, that France contains, at present, about twenty millions of inhabitants. Some speculative men have indeed lately supposed that the population of France has been many years on the decline; but, upon an accurate investigation, the fact appeared to be otherwise.

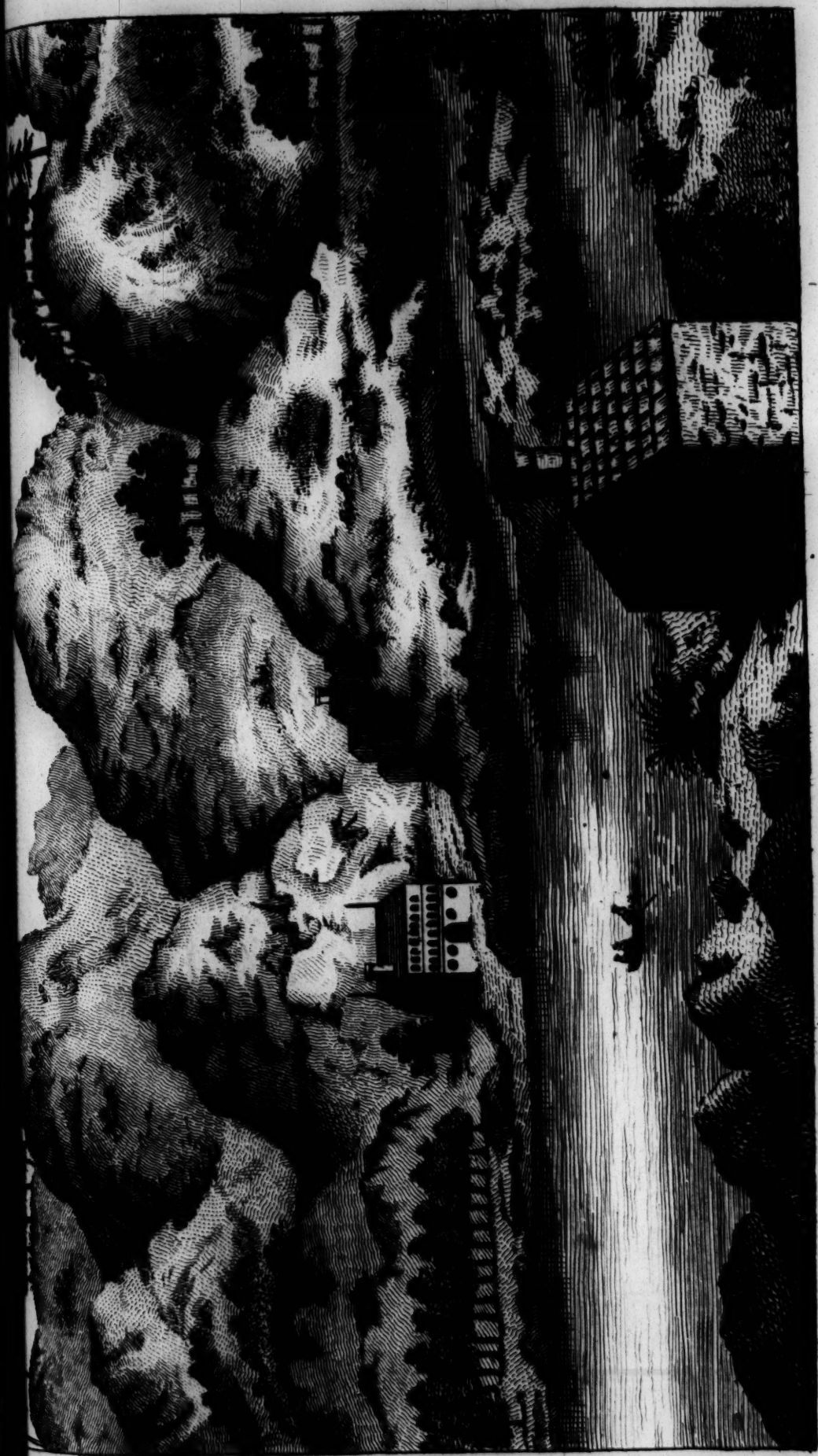
I cannot avoid, upon this subject, introducing a few other quotations from Dr. Moore's late travels through France. Speaking of the manners of the French, he says, "The man in power is courteous to his dependent, the prosperous to the unfortunate, the very beggar who solicits a charity does it with a becoming grace: and, if his request be not granted, he is sure, at least, that it will be refused with an appearance of humanity, and not with harshness or insult. A stranger, quite new and unversed in their language, whose accent is uncouth and ridiculous in the ears of the French, and who can scarcely open his mouth without making a blunder in grammar or idiom, is heard with the most serious attention, and never laughed at, even when he utters the oddest solecism or equivocal expression."

Id. 27,

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The same author observes, "that the most daring deviation from fashion, in the important article of dress, cannot make them forget the laws of good-breeding. When a person appears at the public walks, in cloaths made against every law of the mode, upon which the French are supposed to lay such stress, they do not gaze or sneer at him: they allow him first to pass, as it were, unobserved, and do not till then turn round to indulge the curiosity which his uncommon figure may have excited. I have remarked this instance of delicacy often, in the streets, in the lowest of the vulgar, or rather of the people; for there are really very few of the natives of Paris who can be called vulgar." *Id.*

"A Frenchman, continues the same traveller, not only means nothing beyond common civility, by the plentiful shower of compliments which he pours on every stranger; but also, he takes it for granted, that the stranger knows that nothing more is meant. These expressions are fully understood by his own countryman: he imagines all the world are as well informed; and he has not the smallest intention to deceive. But if any man takes these impressions in a literal sense, and believes that people are in reality inspired with friendship or have fallen in love with him at first sight, he will be very much disappointed; especially if he expects strong proofs of either.—Yet he has no right to accuse the French of insincerity, or breach of friendship.—Friendship is entirely out of the question. They never intend to convey any other idea, than that they were willing to receive him on the footing of an acquaintance. These complimentary phrases, which have crept into all modern languages, may perhaps be superfluous; or, if you please, absurd; but they are so fully established, that people of the greatest
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grity must use them, both in England and France; with this difference that a smaller proportion will do in the language of the one country than in that of the other; but they are indications of friendship in neither." *Moore's Tr.* 64.

The French, says Mrs Piozzi, are really a contended race of mortals:—precluded almost from possibility of adventure, the low Parisian leads a humble gentle life, nor envies that greatness he never can obtain. *Piozzi's Tr.* 13.

A Frenchman of twenty-five, says a late traveller, is not quite so sedate an animal as an Englishman of fifteen. *Moore's Tr.* i. 49.

When the prodigious resources of France are considered, and the advantage it enjoys above almost every other country in point of soil, climate, and situation, it might naturally be expected that the bulk of the nation should be at their ease, and that poverty should be as little known there, as in any country of Europe.

Those who mean to retain a favourable opinion of the wealth of France, must remain at Paris, or visit a few trading or manufacturing towns; but must seldom enter the chateau of the lord, or the hut of the peasant. In the former nothing but tawdry furniture can be seen, in the latter only penury and distress.

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS.

THE kingdom of France, with old and new territories belonging to it, is variously divided; namely, in respect of its civil constitution into parliaments; of its finances, into generalities; of its ecclesiastical constitution, into archbishoprics and bishoprics, or ecclesiastical provinces, as they are called; and lastly, with regard to its military con-

constitution, it consists of thirty-seven governments. The last being the principal division, and that which is most generally adopted, I shall pursue the same plan, in imitation of the most approved French geographers.

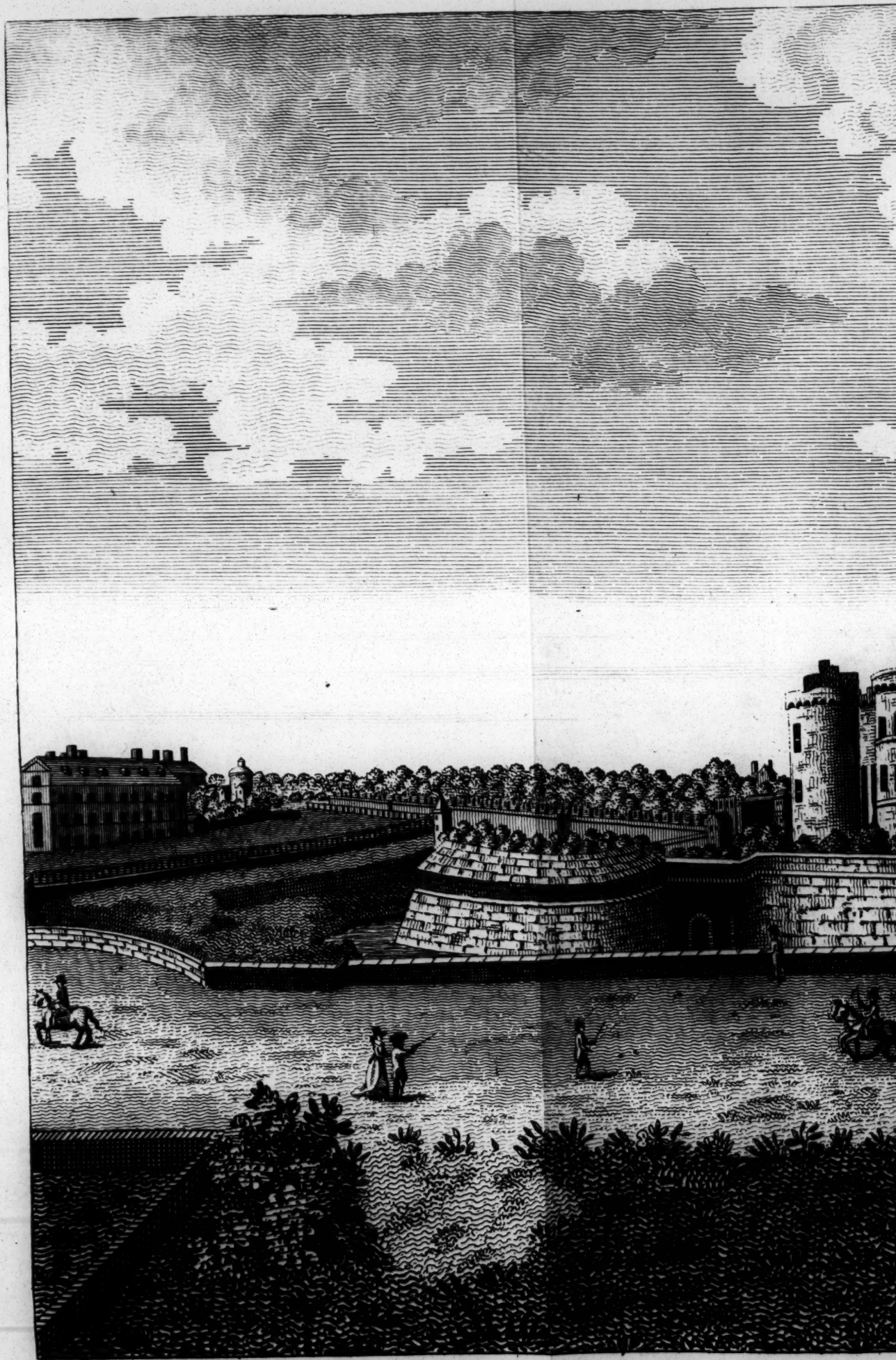
THE GOVERNMENT OF PARIS.

PARIS, the capital of the kingdom, is situated on the river Seine, in the isle of France, and is one of the largest and finest cities in the world. Ever since the reign of Hugh Capet, this city has been the usual residence of the kings of France. It is nearly of a circular form, and, including the suburbs, about fifteen miles in circumference. The number of its inhabitants are supposed to be five hundred thousand; the streets are computed to exceed nine hundred, and the houses amount to about twenty thousand, and from four to seven stories high; exclusive of churches, convents, chapels, colleges, communities, and all other public edifices. The streets are of a proper breadth, well-built, paved, and lighted. Here are forty-seven parish-churches, and twenty others, three abbies and twelve priories for men, seven abbies and six priories for women, seventeen collegiate churches, of which thirteen have chapters; fifty convents and fraternities of ecclesiastics and laics, forty three nunneries, fourteen female communities, eleven seminaries, twenty-six hospitals, forty chapels, an university with four faculties, and forty-three colleges, exclusive of some others; nine academies, five public libraries, four royal palaces, four castles, seventy-three market-places, sixty fountains, twelve bridges over the Seine, ten of which are stone, and eleven public gates.

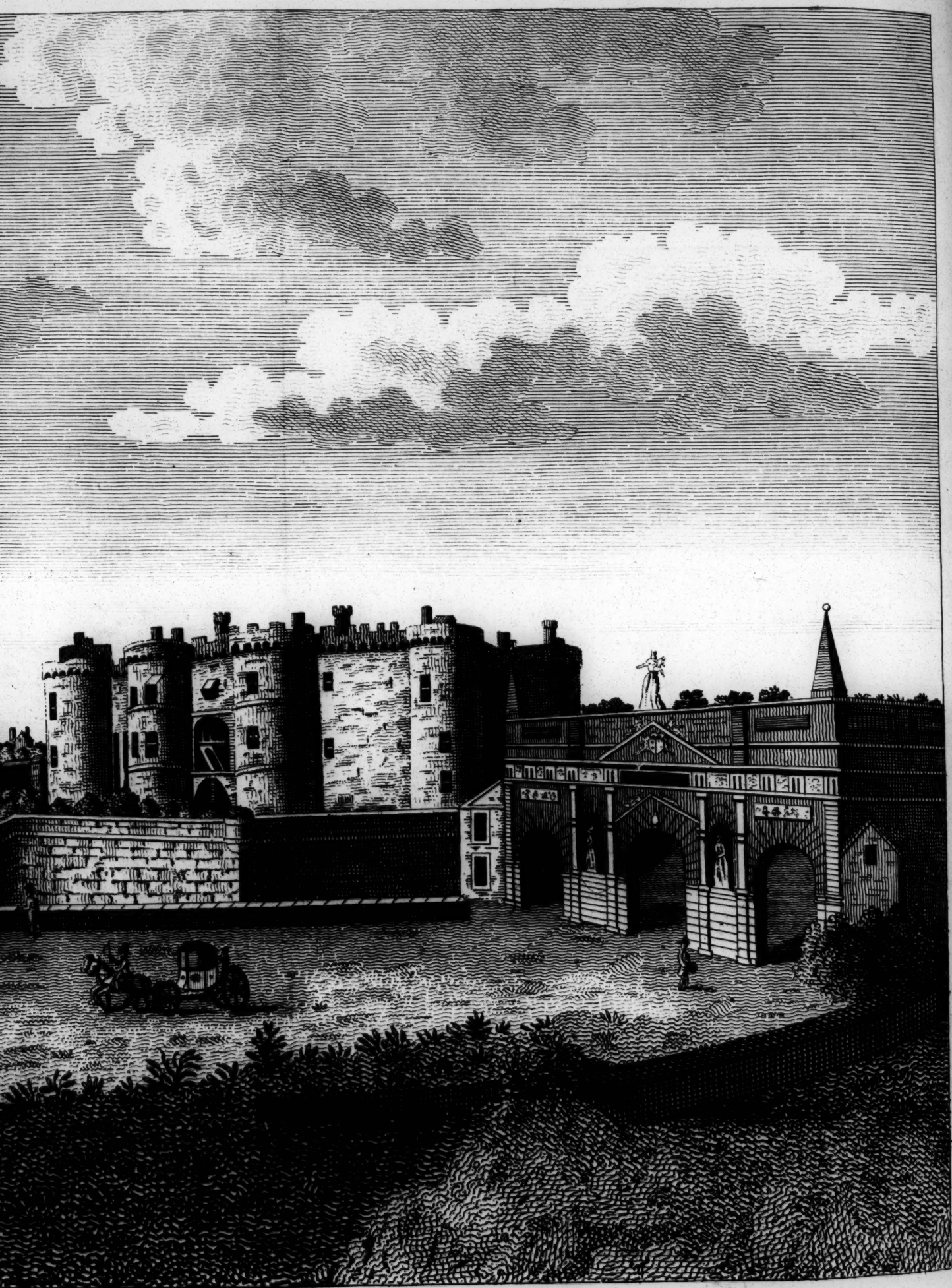
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View of the Bastille, before its



before its destruction in July, 1789 .

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But, to descend to particulars, that part which is called *La Cité* lies in the centre, consisting of three islands formed by the *Seine*, viz. *l'Isle de Palais*, *l'Isle de Notre-Dame*, and *l'Isle Louvier*. It is the principal of the three parts into which the city is divided, and contains the following structures, viz. several bridges, which have most of them a row of houses on each side; the most remarkable of these are the *Pont-neuf*, and *Pont-royal*; the first consisting of twelve arches, which, properly speaking, form two bridges, the one leading from the suburbs of *St. Germain* to the city, and the other to that part called *la Ville*. The passage for carriages, in the middle, is thirty feet wide; it has a foot walk on each side, raised about two feet higher, and, in the centre, a brass statue of king *Henry IV.* on horseback. The building called *la Samaritaine* is also upon this bridge, from a groupe of figures on it representing *Christ* and the *Samaritan woman*. The *Pont-royal* leads to the *Thuilleries*, and was built by order of *Lewis XIV.* The cathedral of *Notre-Dame*, dedicated to the *Virgin-Mary*, which is a large noble gothic structure, built in the form of a cross, and is said to have been founded by king *Childeric*. Here is a profusion of gold and silver plate, rich tapestry, and fine paintings, and the number of the canons is no less than fifty. Near it stands the palace of the archbishop of *Paris*. The priory and parish church of *St. Bartholomew*, the latter of which is extremely beautiful, and stands near the *Palais*—The *Palais*, which gives name to an island, and in which the parliament and many courts are held. There is a very beautiful chapel belonging to the *Palais*, in which is also a prison for the jurisdiction of the parliament, called *La Conciergerie*—The *Hotel Dieu*, a large hospital of great antiquity, in which eight thou-

land sick and infirm poor are attended by the nuns of the order of St. Augustine.—The hospital of St. Catharine, where poor women and maidens are entertained and attended three days by the same nuns.—The Grande Chatelet, where many of the inferior courts of justice hold their sessions—Fort l'Eveque, in which are a mint and a prison—St. Germain l'Auxerrois, called the royal-parish church, because both the Louvre and the Thuilleries are situated in that parish—The Louvre, an ancient royal palace, part of which was rebuilt by Lewis XIV. This palace is joined to the Thuilleries by a gallery, in which there is a valuable collection of paintings, the king's printing house, the mint for striking his majesty's medals, an astonishing quantity of rich tapestry hangings, and a collection of ancient arms, among which are those worn by Francis I. at the battle of Pavia. Here the French academy of belles-lettres, the academy of painting and sculpture, &c. have their meetings—Le Palais royal, built by cardinal Richlieu in 1636, and belongs to the duke of Orleans. The pictures in it are valued at four millions of livres—The palaces des Thuilleries, so called from a tile or brick kiln which formerly occupied that spot, communicates with the Louvre by a gallery, as has been already observed. Behind it are delightful gardens, adorned with walks, parterres, trees, evergreens, the choicest flowers, a canal, and fountains. Behind the Thuilleries, on the bank of the Seine, are pleasant walks, much frequented in fine weather, as well as the gardens—La place de Louis le Grande, a beautiful square, in the centre of which is an equestrian statue of that king finely executed—The Places des Victoires, ornamented with a statue of Lewis XIV. of gilt brass.—The royal library in the Rue Vivien, containing
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ninety-four thousand printed books, thirty thousand manuscripts, and a large collection of medals and copper-plates—The church of St. Eustace, in which is the tomb of the great Colbert—The gate of St. Denis, erected as a triumphal arch in honour of Lewis XIV—The gate of St. Martin, built in honour of the same king—La Greve, a large open place, where public rejoicings are celebrated, and malefactors are executed—The hotel de ville, a large gothic structure—The arsenal, consisting of many spacious buildings—The Bastile, before its demolition, was situated near this spot. Le Temple, a commandery of the knights of Malta, which gives name to a quarter where non-freemen may exercise their trade. This temple is the residence of the grand prior of the kingdom. That formerly called La maison professe des jesuits, in the church of which the hearts of Lewis XIII. and XIV. are preserved, each in a casket of gold, supported by two angels of massy silver, hovering with expanded wings, and as large as life.

In that part of Paris called the University, the principal places are,

The university, said to have been founded by Charles the Great. All the arts and sciences are taught here, particularly law, physic, and divinity—The gobelins, a house or palace, in which a great many artists and manufacturers are employed by government—The general hospital, a noble foundation for poor females, in which almost seven thousand objects are taken care of and provided for. In the castle of Bicêtre, belonging to this hospital, are about four thousand persons of the other sex—The king's physic garden, in which are an infinite variety of plants and trees—The abbey of St. Victor, having a public library. The college of physicians—The Little Chatelet,

an old fortress now converted into a prison.—The royal college, and that of Lewis the Great.—The abbey of St. Genevieve, containing a marble monument of king Clovis, the shrine of St. Genevieve, a library, and a cabinet of curiosities and antiquities.—The royal observatory.—The royal academy of surgery.—The convent of the Franciscans.—The play-house.—The convent of Carthusians.—The palace of Luxemburgh, a magnificent structure, in which are some fine paintings by Rubens. In the hotel des ambassadeurs, ambassadors extraordinary are entertained for three days, and those of remote countries during the whole time they stay at Paris. The abbey of St. Germain de Prez, containing an excellent library, in which are eight thousand volumes of manuscripts. The royal hospital of invalids, erected by Lewis XIV. for maimed and superannuated soldiers and sailors. The chapel belonging to it is very magnificent. Near it is a military academy, in which five hundred young gentlemen are instructed in the military art.

Le Peuple, says Dr. Moore, is a term of reproach in Paris. *Un homme du peuple*, implies a want of both education and manners. *Un homme comme il faut*, on the other hand, does not imply a man of sense or principle, but simply a man of birth or fashion: for a man may be *homme comme il faut*, and yet be devoid of every quality which adorns human nature. *Moore's Tr.* i. 31.

The environs of Paris are remarkably pleasant, and contain several small towns and villages, with some beautiful seats. Among the latter is the royal palace of Madrid, built by Francis I. in 1529, after the model of the palace of Madrid, in Spain, where he was kept prisoner,

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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLE OF FRANCE.

THIS government is bounded on the north by Picardy; on the west by Normandy; on the south by Beauce, and part of Gastinois; and on the east by Champagne and Brie. It is about thirty six leagues in length, and almost as many in breadth. The principal rivers by which it is watered, are the Seine, the Marne, the Oise, and the Aisne. The principal places in this government are

SAINT DENIS, a pretty large town, seated in a fruitful level country, about two leagues north of Paris. It obtained its name from an abbey of Benedictines, founded there by king Klotar in 600, but greatly improved by Dagobert his son, dedicated to St. Denis, the patron or tutelar saint of France. It has an elegant garden and a rich treasury, in which the crown jewels are always kept. In the church, which is a handsome gothic structure, are the sepulchres of the French kings, the princes and princesses of the blood, and other great personages; particularly that of marshal Turenne. The first king buried here was Dagobert, many of whose successors are also deposited in this sacred fabric; but it was not till the Capet line ascended the throne that this became the common burial place of the kings; and of this line only three have been interred elsewhere; namely, Philip I. Lewis the Young, and Lewis XI. The convent, which is of the Benedictine order, and together with its precincts, immediately subject to the pope, has an annual income of about sixty thousand livres, exclusive of the lordship of the town. The title of abbot was suppressed in
1692,

on the death of cardinal De Retz; and his revenue, which was one hundred thousand livres, granted to the convent of St. Cyr, founded by Lewis XIV. for the education of ladies. Here are thirteen churches, besides that already mentioned, one of which is a collegiate, and dedicated to St. Paul. This town has also five convents, and is celebrated for its fairs,

BEAUVOIS, the capital of the territory called Beauvaisis, is situated on the river Terain, about fourteen leagues north-west of Paris. It is the see of a bishop, who is both spiritual and temporal lord of the city, suffragan to the archbishop of Rheims, and a duke and peer of France, with an annual revenue of fifty-five thousand livres. Here are several manufactures of tapestry, linen, serge, and woollen cloths; besides which Beauvois is enriched with a cathedral, six collegiate churches, thirteen parish-churches, three abbies, and a general hospital,

St. CLOUD, a borough seated on an eminence near the Seine, two leagues below Paris, and belonging to the archbishop of that city, to whom it gives the title of duke and peer. Here is a collegiate church, a convent, and a fine palace belonging to the duke of Orleans, in the last of which there are some admirable paintings; and in the beautiful garden belonging to it, some curious fountains and cascades. This place is much resorted to by the inhabitants of Paris, on account of its extraordinary beauty. The town of St. Cloud has a manufactory of porcelain, and a fine stone-bridge over the Seine. Henry III. was murdered here in the year 1589.

VER.

VERSAILLES, a town situated about four leagues south-west of Paris, was formerly only one parish and priory, subordinate to that of St. Magloire at Paris; but, having lords of its own, who were vassals to the archbishop of Paris, Lewis XIII. purchased this place, with intent to build himself a hunting seat in it: and Lewis XIV. erected here a most superb and spacious palace, on a regular construction, the inside of which is decorated with paintings by the greatest masters, the richest and most magnificent furniture. It is situated on a rising ground, in the middle of a valley surrounded with hills; having on the side towards Paris, a fine avenue leading to it through the town, and dividing it into the old and new. To give a particular account of this place would far exceed the limits of our plan. It consists, however, of several quadrangles, embellished, both externally and internally, in the most sumptuous manner. The grove is delightful beyond imagination, being embellished with statues, fountains, cascades, and bowers. The menagerie consists of seven courts, and contains a vast number of very curious animals.

Every part within the palace, that is not hung with tapestry, is lined with marble, and the nearer you approach the king's apartments, the more costly is the marble, and the finer the sculpture, painting, and other decorations. The chapel is an exquisite piece of architecture, sculpture, and painting. The king's bed chamber is magnificent beyond conception: the bed, consisting of crimson velvet embroidered with gold, stands in a kind of alcove, where two figures of Fame are represented sitting. The canal in the garden, by which the river Eure is conveyed to it, is a very noble one. It is intersected in the middle, by another canal; one of

of these branches goes to the little palace of Trianon, the other supplies the menagerie. The finest water-works are defended with rails, and are only played off on extraordinary occasions; the others remain open, and are continually exhibited during the summer season.

The orangery or green-house, is an elegant structure: the parterre before it is also very beautiful, being adorned with a great number of orange and lemon trees, laurels, myrtles, &c. The labyrinth, or maze, is a fine grove. It has acquired that name from the disposition of the several walks, which are so interwoven with each other, that is difficult for any one to find his way out of it without a guide. In a word, the garden, take it all together, with due attention to the statues, canals, fountains, groves, and grottos, is superior to any thing of the kind in Europe. The royal cabinet contains the most curious medals, coins, paintings, &c. that Italy could afford. The stables are grand, elegant, and convenient. To this place belongs also the palace of Trianon, which though but one story high, makes a pleasing, and even a magnificent appearance, its outside consisting wholly of variegated marble of most excellent workmanship. The extensive forest belonging to Versailles, includes several villages, castles, and country seats; and being the usual residence of the court, it has occasioned a considerable town to be built; in which the streets are straight and consist of a great number of hotels. The old town has a convent, and the new one a parish church, with a large house for the missionaries of St. Lazarus, to whom the church belongs.

MARLY, a village near the Seine, a mile from Versailles, where Lewis XIV. built a royal-palace,

lace, consisting of one large insulated pavilion, with two opposite rows, each containing six smaller pavilions, joined to each other by covered green walks, all exactly of the same dimensions, and standing equidistant. The gardens here are universally admired; and the engine for raising water from the Seine, to supply the reservoirs and water-works, is equally grand and ingenious; the water being conveyed hither over several hills, and from hence to Versailles.

ST. GERMAIN EN LAYE, a populous town, seated on an eminence in the forest of Laye, on the banks of the Seine, and about four leagues from Paris. This place is principally remarkable for two castles, or royal palaces, the gardens of which were formerly very noble, but are now much neglected. Lewis XIV. was born in that which is called the new palace; but, so transitory are sublunary things, the alcove in which that hero drew his first breath, is now converted into a dust-hole; the noble galleries are become granaries, and the paintings are hardly distinguishable on account of the filth which covers them. James II. of England, after he fled from that country, kept his little court in the old palace, after the revolution, and died in it on the 6th of September, 1701. The forest and park contiguous to the castles are very beautiful.

FONTAINBLEAU, a town in the middle of a forest, about eleven miles south of Paris. It is chiefly remarkable for its royal palace, which is very spacious, but situated in a bottom. The forest is large, beautiful, and romantic, and abounds with game. The stag-gallery, in this place, extends the whole length of the orangerie, and is decorated with paintings of all the royal

laces and seats, between which are stag's heads, with an inscription underneath, shewing where, and by what king, the stag was killed. The gardens are beautiful, and richly adorned with statues and fountains.

The smaller places in this government are Vincennes, Senlis, Compeigne, Soissons, Noyon, Dreaux, St. Cyr, Montmorency, Charenton, Corbeil, Chespy, Chantilly, Laon, and Pontoise.

THE GOVERNMENT OF PICARDY AND ARTOIS.

PICARDY is bounded on the north by the Pais de Calais, Artois, and Hainault; on the south by the Ile of France; on the east by Champagne; and on the west by Normandy and the channel. The principal rivers are the Somme, Oise, Canche, Lathie, La Lis, Scarpe, and Deule. This province, in consequence of its flourishing manufactures, its situation upon the sea, and its fisheries, is the seat of a very extensive trade. The principal places in this government, are

GUISE, the capital of the district of Thierache, seated on the river Oise. It has a strong castle, remarkable for holding out several sieges, of which that by the archduke Leopold, in 1650, was the last. The town being situated on the frontiers of the low countries is considered as one of the bulwarks of the kingdom, and therefore strongly fortified. Here is a deputy-governor, a particular governor, a salt office, a small collegiate church, and a convent.

AMIENS, the capital of Picardy, and of the district called Amienois. It is a place of great anti-

antiquity, well fortified, the seat of a governor-general, and several offices, and the see of a bishop who has a revenue of thirty thousand livres. Here are three bridges over the same number of channels of the Somme, a magnificent cathedral, a collegiate church, a chapter of St. Nicholas, fourteen parish-churches, a seminary, several convents, a general hospital, some abbies, and an academy of arts. There are, in this town, several manufactures of half-silk stuffs and ferrets.

The cathedral, at Amiens, says Mrs Piozzi, made ample amends for the country we passed through to see it: the Nef d' Amiens deserves the fame of a first-rate structure, and the ornaments of its high altar seem particularly well chosen, of an excellent taste, and very capital execution. *Piozzi's Tr. i. 9.*

CRECY or **CRESSY**, a small town on the river Authie, about three leagues from Abbeville, famous for the battle between the English and the French in 1346, in which the latter were totally defeated.

AZINCOURT, or **AGINCOURT**, a village situated near the river Bresse, near which Henry V. king of England obtained a complete victory over the French, on the 25th of October, 1415. Great numbers of the French nobility were slain and taken prisoners.

BOULOGNE, a city and sea-port at the mouth of the little river Liane, with a harbour defended by a fort: the harbour, however, cannot be entered but at high water, and not even then without difficulty, or danger. It is seven leagues from Calais, and thirteen from Abbeville. It is the capital of the Boulonnois,

a district exempted from several taxes, and having a governor independent of the governor-general of Picardy. It is divided into the upper and lower town. The latter is larger and handsomer, but not so well fortified, nor inhabited by so many genteel people as the former. The bishop is suffragan to the archbishop of Rheims. Here is a court of admiralty, and several other courts, a strong citadel, two convents, a seminary, and a college. This was formerly a part of the earldom of Flanders. Near it is a mineral spring, called *La Fontaine de Fer*, the Iron Spring,

CALAIS, a strong town and sea-port, situated on the narrowest part of the channel, called *Le pas de Calais*, or the straight of Calais. It is the capital of the recovered country, and contains two churches, one of which is in the suburbs, and four convents. It is large and well fortified, but the harbour is of difficult and dangerous access. Here is a fine arsenal, and a citadel, which commands the town and harbour. It carries on a good trade in wine, brandy, salt, flax, butter, and horses, and reaps great advantage from the canal made there in 1681, which opens a cheap and convenient intercourse with St. Omer, Graveline, Dunkirk, Bergues, and Ypres. In time of peace between France and England, packet-boats are continually passing too and from Calais to Dover. Edward III. king of England, in 1346, took this town by a formal siege, after which it remained in the hands of the English till 1558, when they were dispossessed of it by the French. In 1594, it was taken by the Spaniards, who gave it up in 1596, at the peace of Vervins. It was bombarded by the English in 1694, 1695, and 1696.

Mrs.

Mrs Piozzi makes the following observations on this port, so opposite to Dover.—We are going now to leave Calais, where the women in long white camblet cloaks, soldiers with whiskers, girls in neat short slippers and short petticoats contrived to shew them, who wait upon you at the inn;—postillions with greasy night-caps, and vast jack-boots, driving your carriage harnessed with ropes, and adorned with sheep-skins, can never fail to strike an Englishman at his first going abroad. *Piozzi's Tr.* i. 5.

ARTOIS, the other part of this government, is one of the finest and most fertile provinces in the nation, and was formerly one of the seventeen provinces of the Netherlands, but now belongs to France. The name of this country is derived from the ancient Atrabates, who dwelt in Gallia Belgica, and made no inconsiderable figure in Cæsar's time. It is about twenty-four leagues in length, and twelve in breadth; and the most considerable places in it are,

ARRAS, the capital of Artois, situated on the Scarpe, about sixteen leagues south of Dunkirk. It is pretty large, and well fortified, being divided into the city and town, of which the former is the most ancient. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Cambray. The abbey of St. Vest, in this town, has a most magnificent church belonging to it. Here are also eleven parish-churches, a seminary, and several convents. The governor's house, and the town-house, are magnificent buildings. The inhabitants have a considerable trade in sail-cloth, and tapestry hangings, which take their name from the town. The provincial court of Artois is held here,

ST. OMER, a considerable city, situated on the river Aa, and is one of the best fortifications in the Netherlands. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Cambray. Here are several convents, a fine town-house, a cathedral, six parish-churches (exclusive of St. Bertin's, a celebrated abbey of Benedictines) two colleges, and an hospital. The suburb, called Hautpont is inhabited solely by Flemish families. Near the town is a kind of lake, in which are some floating islands.

The less considerable places are St. Quentin, Peronne, Abbeville, La Fere, Conti, Corbie, Montrevil, Ambleteuse, and Guisnes.

THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAMPAGNE AND BRIE.

THIS province is bounded on the south by Burgundy; on the north by Hainault and the bishopric of Liege; on the west by the Isle of France and Picardy; and on the east by Luxembourg and Lorrain. It is about one hundred and sixty-five miles in length, and one hundred and forty-five in breadth, where broadest. The principal rivers are the Seine, the Marne, the Aube, and the Aisne. The principal places in this government are,

TROYES, the capital of the province, seated on the river Seine, twenty-six leagues south-east of Paris. It is pretty large, but not so populous and flourishing as it has formerly been. It is, however, the see of a bishop suffragan to the archbishops of Sens. No less than eighteen of the prelates of this town have been canonized for

for saints. Though its trade has been long on the decline, it is still considerable, and has several manufactures; and the neighbouring country is pleasant and fruitful in wine, grain, and pasture. Here are fourteen churches, including the cathedral, and two which are collegiate; four abbies, ten convents, a college, a seminary, and an hospital; besides a court of mintage, several courts of justice and a salt-office.

RHEIMS, situated on the river Vesle, one of the largest and most celebrated cities in the whole kingdom. It is about twenty-five leagues north-east of Paris, and had its name from the Remi, one of the chief nations of ancient Gaul. Here king Clovis was baptised, with his court and principal nobility, by St. Remigius. The churches here are in general very fine, particularly the cathedral of our Lady, though of Gothic architecture. The great altar in this church, where the kings of France are crowned and anointed, is plated with gold. Here are also three collegiate churches, five abbies, a large seminary, a fine college, nine convents, a commandery, and three spacious hospitals. The abbey of Benedictines of St. Remy, in this city, is one of the noblest belonging to that order in the kingdom; and on the altar of its church, under which St. Remigius lies interred, is kept the Sainte Ampouille, or holy phial, which is said to have been brought down from heaven by a dove, at the inauguration of Clovis, in the year 496, in consequence of the prayer of that saint, the crowd hindering him from coming to the font with the usual oil. The phial is not unlike a common Hungary-water bottle, and is closed with a gold stopper. It is preserved perforated in a square casket, fastened on a silver salver, and is only to be seen through a chrystal cover

cover placed over the casket. The university was founded about the middle of the sixteenth century, by Charles, cardinal of Lorraine, and archbishop of this city. Here are several remains of antiquity, particularly of two triumphal arches, some causeways, and three gates, which still retain the name of the Sun, Mars, and Ceres. The trade of this town is considerable in wine, silk, stuffs, and woollen.

The places of less note in this government are Chalons, Langres, Vaucouleurs, Meaux, Sens, Joinville, Brie, Champenoise, Sedan, and Monson.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BURGUNDY.

THIS province contains the duchy of Burgundy, La Bresse, La Bugy, and the district of Gex; having Lyonnois on the south; Champagne on the north; Nivernois and Bourbonnois on the west; and Franche-Comté on the east. It is very fertile in corn, wine, fruits, and tobacco; being watered by the Seine, the Dehune, the Brebince, or Bourbince, the Ouche, the Armançon, and the Tille. Its principal places are,

DIJON, the capital of the country and government of Burgundy, a large, handsome, well-fortified town, the seat of the governor and parliament, and of several other offices and tribunals. It is an episcopal see. Here are several beautiful squares, four abbies, seven parish churches, an academy of sciences, a college of law, a great many convents, and several hospitals. The walks before the city are a quarter of a league in length, planted with three rows of linden trees, and terminated

minated by a delightful grove. In the environs of this city are several handsome seats, among which the palace of Montmusard deserves the attention of a traveller, as well for the elegance of its structure, as for the internal embellishments, pictures, statues, &c.

AUTUN, a town situated on an eminence near three hills, on the river Aroux. It is the see of a bishop. This town has a cathedral, one collegiate, and twelve parish-churches, five abbies, two seminaries, two priories, six convents, and two hospitals. Several antiquities are to be seen in Autun, and the adjacent country. Among which are the remains of the Genetoise, the temple of Janus, &c.

There are several small towns and villages in this principality; such as Semur, Auxerre, Avallon, Toissey, St. Didier, Montmerle, Beauregard, Villeneuve, Amberieu, Chalomont, Marlieu, and Ville.

THE GOVERNMENT OF DAUPHINE.

DAUPHINE is bounded on the north by Bresse and the Rhone; on the south by Provence; on the west by the Rhone; and on the east by the Alps and Savoy. Lower Dauphiné produces grain, wine, olives, silk, hemp, salt, wood, vitriol, chrystal, copper, lead, and iron; but Upper-Dauphiné is so mountainous and barren, that many of the natives have quitted it, in hopes of procuring a better subsistence in other parts. Several sorts of wild animals are found upon the mountains, such as bears, marmots, and a species of goats, called by the French *bouquettons*; together with white hares, patridges, eagles, &c.

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The principal rivers in this province are the Rhone, the Durance, the Isere, and the Drome. The most considerable places in this government are,

GRENOBLE, the capital of this government, situated at the conflux of the Isere and Drac. It is a pleasant, populous, well-fortified city, and the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Vienne. Exclusive of the other fortifications, it is defended by a citadel called the bastille. Here are manufactures of coarse woollen stuffs, skins, and gloves. Here is also a fine episcopal palace, a general hospital, and two churches, including the cathedral. Among the Alps, at the distance of about three leagues from Grenoble, stand a celebrated monastery of Carthusians. The passage to it is over rocks and precipices of a dreadful height, the terror of which is increased by the roarings of the river Guyer le Mort, in its precipitate course among them. The situation and prospect are very romantic; the monastery standing high, amidst mountains, woods, and rocks. The church here is very large and magnificent.

VIENNE, the capital of a district called the Viennois, has a cathedral, which is a most beautiful structure, three abbies, nine convents, a priory, and a seminary. Anchors and sword-blades are made here, and many other articles in steel and iron. Paper is also manufactured in the environs of this city.

Ambrun, Gap, Valence, Tain, and Die, are small places.

THE PRINCIPALITY OF ORANGE.

THE principality of Orange is almost four leagues in length, and about two in breadth. In the ninth century this territory was under the dominion of the kings of Burgundy and Arles; in the eleventh it had counts of its own, and soon acquired the title of a principality. In 1531 it came to the house of Nassau, and there continued till the death of William, prince of Orange, stadtholder of Holland, and king of Great-Britain. In 1713, Frederic-William, king of Prussia, by the treaty of Utrecht, ceded this principality to France; in 1722, Lewis XV. gave it to the prince of Conti; and, in 1714, it was annexed to the government of Dauphiné. The annual revenue it produces is supposed to be about fifty thousand livres. The only place in this territory worthy of notice, is Orange, an ancient city.

THE GOVERNMENT OF PROvence.

THIS country is bounded to the north by Dauphiné; to the east by the Alps and the river Var, which divide it from the territory belonging to the king of Sardinia; to the south by the Mediterranean; and to the west is separated from Languedoc by the Rhone. It is divided into the upper and lower, its length being about forty-two leagues, and its breadth thirty. The principal places are,

AIX, the capital of the Province, and one of the finest cities in the kingdom. It is situated

ated in a valley of considerable extent, planted chiefly with olives, and is rather populous than large. The streets are well paved, and the houses handsome. It is the see of an archbishop. In the cathedral here, lie four counts of Provence, and in the church-treasury is a consecrated rose of gold, the present of pope Innocent IV. to count Raymond Berenger. Here are two colleges, an university founded in 1409, an academy of the beaux-arts erected in 1688, a public library, eighteen convents, several courts of judicature, a stately palace where the parliament meet, a mint, and a town house. Most of the gentry of Provence reside in this city in winter, which renders it very agreeable. The warm waters here are not so much esteemed as they were formerly. Excellent wine is produced in the environs of Aix, but its principal trade consists in its incomparable oil.

ARLES, a large well-built city on the river Rhone, over which it has a bridge. It was anciently a Roman colony, and several marks of its former grandeur appear at this day; particularly an obelisk of oriental granite, and the ruins of an amphitheatre. It was once the capital of the kingdom of Burgundy, which on its erection by Basan, was also called the kingdom of Arles. It is now the see of an archbishop.

MARSEILLES, a very ancient, large, rich, and populous city, seated at the foot of a rocky mountain, on the coast of the Mediterranean sea, where it has a safe and spacious harbour. This city is said to have been founded by a colony from Ionia, five hundred years before the Christian æra. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Arles. It is divided into the old

and new town; the former lies on an eminence, consisting of narrow streets indifferently built; the latter is very handsome, and has a beautiful walk. This town has also a mint, an academy of the fine arts, an observatory, several churches, and two abbies. Gold and silver stuffs are made here, and the commerce of Marseilles with Spain and Italy is very considerable. Opposite the harbour are three small islands, one of which serves as a place of confinement for the delinquents who are natives of Marseilles.

TOULON, a considerable city, situated on the Mediterranean, with a fine port, ten leagues from Marseilles, and one hundred and twenty-five from Paris. Both the town and the harbour are strongly fortified. The entrance of the port is so narrow that two ships cannot go into it a-breast. Exclusive of the cathedral, here are nine convents, a seminary, a college, and arsenal well furnished, a cannon-foundery, a large rope-house, an admiralty, and other courts. Toulon is the see of a bishop. Here is a general magazine, containing an immense quantity of stores, and a manufactory of coarse woollen cloth. This is the principal town in the Mediterranean for naval stores, and is fortified with strong walls, defended with bastions. It has two moles, each seven hundred paces in length, which almost surround the harbour. Here are always men of war, as well as other ships. In 1707, the duke of Savoy laid siege to this city, but without success.

DIGNE, a small ancient city, situated at the foot of the mountains, near the little river Bleona, and the capital of the district of the Vigurie of Digne. It is the see of a bishop.

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The less considerable places are Grace, Antibes, St. Remy, Brignoles, Hieres, Frejus, and Vence.

THE CITY and DISTRICT of AVIGNON, and the **COUNTY of VENAISSIN**, *though they belong to the pope, may with propriety be introduced here, as they are almost surrounded by PROVENCE. The particulars are as follow:*

THE city and district of Avignon anciently belonged to the counts of Thoulouse and Provence; afterwards to the dukes of Burgundy; then to the kings of Sicily, who were also counts of Provence, till 1348; when Johanna queen of Sicily, and countess of Provence, disposed of the town and its district to pope Clement VI. for eighty thousand florins. The district is a delightful country; particularly abounding in corn, wine, and saffron. The country of Venaissin was held by the counts of Thoulouse, its own counts, and others till 1273, when Philip the Bold restored it to pope Gregory X. as a fief of the see of Rome, since which it has been possessed by the popes, and governed under them by officers called rectories. This country is also very fertile. The district of Avignon contains no place deserving notice but the city of

AVIGNON, a large beautiful place, and the see of an archbishop, seated at the conflux of the Rhone and Sorgue, about fifteen leagues from Aix. Here is a papal palace, the residence of the vice-legat, or governor; which is a large structure of free-stone, environed with moats, but far from being a regular building. The upper court of the vice-legat, is called the Rota, with a right of appeal to Rome. Here is a stone-bridge

bridge over the Rhone, a fine Jesuits college, and an university founded in 1303. Seven popes resided here successively, from the year 1307, to 1377. In the church of the Franciscans, is the tomb of the beautiful and learned Laura, immortalised by the poetry and passion of Petrarch.

In the county of VENAISSIN, are Lisle, Carpentras, Vaifson, and Vaucluse, where Petrarch and his Laura resided.

THE GOVERNMENT OF LANGUEDOC.

THIS government is bounded on the north by Guienne, Lyonnois, and Auvergne; to the south by the Mediterranean, and the counties of Roussillon and Foix; to the east by the Rhone, which separates it from Dauphiné, Provence, and Avignon; and to the west the Garonne divides a great part of it from Gascony. The eastern coast, from Agde to the Rhone, is remarkably increased, the sea having retreated from it a considerable distance: this evidently appears on consulting ancient maps, and the accounts of ancient geographers. The figure of this country is very irregular, but its greatest length is about seventy leagues, and its greatest breadth thirty-two. The principal rivers in the province are, the Rhone, the Garonne, the Aude, the Tarne, the Loire, and the Alier. The exports of Languedoc are chiefly wine, oil, raisins, dried chesnuts, woollen cloths, stuffs, and silk. This province is usually divided into the upper and lower. Among other places of inferior note, are the following:

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THOULOUSE, the capital, one of the largest and most ancient cities in the kingdom, situated in a delightful plain on the river Garonne, over which it has a beautiful bridge. It is about one hundred and ten leagues from Paris, and sixteen from the Pyrenees. It is the residence of an archbishop. It is not, however, very rich or populous; and, though so finely situated, its trade is inconsiderable. The cathedral is very ancient, but not otherwise remarkable. In the church of St. Saturnin are said to be the bodies of thirty saints, and among them seven of the apostles, one of which is affirmed to be St. James the Younger; though St. Jago de Compostella, in Spain, boasts also of being possessed of the body of that apostle. The church of La Dorade is so called from a gilded, but now a black image of the Virgin Mary, which is fixed upon the great altar, and, in any time of calamity, is the constant refuge of the inhabitants. Here is an university, founded in 1228, an academy of sciences and liberal arts, and another for the encouragement of poetry. Here are several monuments of antiquity and a great number of fine churches. In that of the Jacobins, is the shrine of Thomas Aquinas. The academy of the belles-lettres distributes annually on the 3d of May, four prizes, viz. an amaranthus of gold; and an eglantine, a violet, and a marigold of silver.

NARBONNE, a large well-fortified city, seated on a canal, which by means of the river Aude and the lake Robine, has a communication with the sea. This city is very ancient, having been, in the time of the Romans, the capital of *Gallia Narbonensis*, and a colony, where the pro-consuls usually

usually resided, a place of great trade, and embellished with noble structures. It is now the see of an archbishop; in whose garden is to be seen a beautiful Roman sepulchre of white marble in the form of an altar. The most remarkable thing in the cathedral, is the marble monument of Philip the Bold. Here are several churches, with convents both of monks and nuns, an admiralty, and a mint. The neighbourhood is fruitful in corn and oil, but does not produce much wine.

MONTPELIER, a city on a hill near the river Lez, about eight leagues from Narbonne, and two from the Mediterranean. Next to Toulouse it is the most considerable city in the province, and is the see of a bishop. Here is a citadel, and a celebrated university, in which all the sciences are taught, though it is particularly celebrated for physic. Here is also a royal academy of sciences. Here are a number of fine houses, but the streets are narrow and inconvenient. On the Place de Louis le Grand, near the most delightful walk called Peyrou, is an equestrian statue of brass of that monarch, standing on a marble pedestal, erected by the states of Languedoc. The air of this city is said to be extremely wholesome. Here are several manufactures, and a considerable trade is carried on in verdigris, wine, liqueurs, silks, and woollens.

NISMES, or **NIMES**, a large and ancient city, pleasantly situated, having an extensive plain on one side, and, on the other, gently sloping hills covered with vines. Here are several monuments of antiquity; particularly the amphitheatre called Les Arenes; a temple, supposed to have been dedicated to Diana; a quadrangular house, being an oblong structure, embellished with thirty-two exquisite pillars of the Corinthian order, ima-

gined to be a temple built by the emperor Adrian, in honour of Plotina, consort to Trajan; and an octangular tower. The streets of this city are narrow, but the houses consist of stone, and are well-built. It is the see of a bishop. The citadel consists of four bastions. Here are several large manufactures, and the trade in silk and cloth is very considerable. An academy of belles-lettres was founded here in 1682.

THE GOVERNMENT OF FOIX.

THIS territory contains the district and county of Foix, with the territories of Donnesan and Andorre, and is bounded to the west by Gascogne; to the east and north by Languedoc; and to the south by the Pyrenean mountains and Rouffillon. The principal rivers are the Auriège, and the Rize. The duke of Vendome, father of Henry IV. of France, having married the heiress of the province of Foix, it was united to the crown upon his son's accession. It is divided into Upper and Lower, the former is mountainous, and produces plenty of wood and iron, together with some pasture; the latter is more fruitful, particularly in corn and wine. The trade of this county consists of cattle, turpentine, rosin, pitch, jasper, cork, and iron.

The most considerable place in Upper and Lower Foix, is,

FOIX, a small city, the capital of the county, on the banks of the river Auriège, at the foot of the Pyrenean mountains.

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THE GOVERNMENT OF ROUSSILLON.

THIS province is bordered on the north by the Lesser Pyrenees; on the south by the Greater, which separate it from Catalonia; on the east by the Mediterranean sea; and on the west by Cardagne. It is about twenty leagues in length, and twelve in breadth. Oranges and olives contribute greatly to the wealth of this territory, where they are almost as plentiful as apples and pears are in Normandy. The principal place in this province is,

PERPIGNAN, the capital, seated on the little river Tet, about a league from the Mediterranean, and is a well-built populous town, strongly fortified and defended by a castle. It is also the see of a bishop, with a revenue of eighteen thousand livres per annum. Exclusive of its cathedral, it contains four parish-churches, one seminary, twelve convents, a mint, a high court of justice, a cannon-foundery, and several hospitals and alms-houses.

THE GOVERNMENT OF NAVARRE AND BERN.

THIS government is bounded to the north by Gascogne; to the south by the Pyrenean mountains; to the east by Bigorre; and to the west by Labourd. Navarre, included in this government, and called Lower-Navarre, is only a small part of the ancient kingdom of Navarre, which having been seized by Ferdinand king of Arragon and Castile, all that Catharine, the lawful heiress, and

her husband John of Albert, could procure to be restored to them, was this little spot, which was annexed to the crown of France in 1620. It is about eight leagues in length, and five in breadth. The principality of Bearn was annexed to France at the same time. Navarre is a barren, mountainous country, in which are only the towns of St. Jean Pie de Port, and St. Palais.

The principality of Bearn, which extends sixteen leagues in length, and about twelve in breadth, lies at the foot of the Pyrenean mountains, and is in general barren; though the plains produce a considerable quantity of flax, and a kind of Indian corn, called Mailloc. The chief place in this principality is Pau, a small well-built town, seated on an eminence, near the Gave of Bearn, about ten leagues from the frontier of Spain. Here is a high court of parliament, five convents, two hospitals, a college, a manufacture of cloth, an academy of arts and science, and a palace, in which Henry IV. of France was born.

THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYENNE AND GASCONY.

THESE provinces are large, being about one hundred and ninety-five miles in length, and one hundred and sixty-eight in breadth. It is bounded on the north by Saintonge, Angoumois, and Limousin; on the south by the Pyrenean mountains, which divide it from Spain; on the east by Auvergne and Languedoc; and on the west by the ocean. The principal rivers are the Garonne, and the Adour, both which discharge themselves into the ocean. Guyenne, properly so called, is bounded on the east by Perigord and Agenois; on the west by the ocean; on the north by Saintonge; and

and on the south by Bazadois and Gascony. Its most considerable places are,

BOURDEAUX, or BORDEAUX, the capital of the whole government, seated on the banks of the Garonne, about twenty leagues from its mouth, and is one of the finest cities in France. Its trade is very considerable with almost every part of Europe, the tide rising so high in the river, that ships of great burden come up to the key. The city and harbour are defended by three forts. The citadel, called the *Chateau Trompette*, owes its present strength and beauty to Lewis XIV. and is a noble work built entirely of free-stone. It is the see of an archbishop.

This city is large and populous, and many of the houses are built of stone; but it has much the appearance of antiquity, and the streets are very narrow. The newest and handsomest part of the town is the *Place-Royal*, near the harbour; in which stands the grand magazine, the exchange, and a statue of Lewis XIV. in brass. The suburb of Chartron is also very beautiful. Bourdeaux has a university founded in 1441, an academy of sciences and fine arts instituted in 1712, a large gothic cathedral dedicated to St. Andrew, many other churches and convents, a parliament, three seminaries, an admiralty, several public foundations, some remains of antiquity, and a manufacture of lace. The city of Bourdeaux is built in the shape of a bow, of which the Garonne forms the string. Foreign protestant merchants are indulged here in the private exercise of their religion. Richard II. king of England, was born here in 1367. At the time of the fairs here, which are held twice a year, four or five hundred ships usually arrive, which carry upwards of one hundred

dred thousand tuns of wine and brandy. Bourdeaux is eighty-eight miles south of Rochelle.

PERIGUEUX, the capital of the district called Upper-Perigord, which is not very fruitful, but contains some mines and minerals. This city is situated on the river Isle, about eighteen leagues from Bourdeaux, and contains a college, four convents, an hospital, and some remains of Roman antiquities; particularly an amphitheatre, the temple of Venus, &c. It is divided into *La Cité*, and *La Ville*; the former is the old, and the latter the new town. This is the see of a bishop, subordinate to the archbishop of Bourdeaux.

GASCOGNE constitutes the south part of this government, and comprehends the following places :

BAYONNE, the capital of the district of Labourd, a pretty large city, at the junction of the Adour and Nive, and near the sea. It is about five leagues from the borders of Spain, and one hundred and twenty from Paris. Being one of the keys of the kingdom on the side of Spain, it is strongly fortified. It has a good harbour, on which account it has a very considerable trade, which is very advantageous to the country; great quantities of Spanish wool, in particular, being exported from this place. Here is a citadel, with two forts, and other works. The river Nive flows through the city, and the Adour close by its walls; soon after which they unite, and divide the city into three parts, called the large town, the small town, and the suburb of St. Esprit, in the last of which, a great many jews reside. Bayonne is the see of a bishop, suffragan to Auch. Exclusive of the cathedral, here are five convents, a chapter, a college, a mint, and an admiralty.

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The smaller places are Bargerac, Sarlet, Condom, Nérac, Aire, Auch, Lecture, Verdun, and St. Bertrand.

THE GOVERNMENT OF SAINTONGE AND ANGOUMOIS.

THIS government comprehends the principal part of Saintonge and Angoumois; the former of which is about twenty-five leagues in length, and twelve in breadth, and is bounded on the north by Aunis and Poitou; on the south by Burdelois and the Garonne; on the east by Angoumois and Perigord; and on the west by the ocean. It acquired its name from its ancient inhabitants the Santoni. Its principal rivers are the Charente, and the Boutonne. This government abounds in grain, wine, saffron, and fruits of every kind. Its horses are also much esteemed. Here are several mineral springs, and in that quarter near the sea, great quantities of salt are made. This country frequently changed masters between the French and the English; but Charles V. fixed it to the crown of France. This territory is divided by the Charente into two parts, called the upper and lower.

SAINTES, the capital of Saintonge, situated on the Charente, about seven leagues from the sea. It is small, and the streets are narrow, but it is a bishop's see, with a yearly revenue of twenty thousand livres. Some remains of the Roman works are discernible in this town.

ANGOUMOIS, which is comprehended in this government, is bounded on the west by Saintonge; on the east by Limosin; on the north by Poitou; and

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and on the south by the Perigord. It is watered by the rivers Charente and Tournes, and produces grain, wine, saffron, and fruits of various kinds. It also yields some excellent mines of iron, and is particularly famous for its paper.

ANGOULESME, or ANGOULEME, the capital of Angoumois, seated on an eminence near the Charente, about ten leagues from Saintes. It is the see of a bishop suffragan to the archbishop of Bourdeaux. Here are twelve parish-churches, ten convents, a general hospital, the abbey of St. Cibard, and a manufacture of fine paper.

The places of inferior note in these territories are Pons, St. Jean, D'Angeli, and Cognac.

THE GOVERNMENT OF AUNIS.

THE province of Aunis, or Aunis, is bounded to the north by Poitou; to the south and east by Saintonge; and to the west by the ocean. It is the smallest province in France, not exceeding ten leagues in length, and little more than nine in breadth. It is watered by the river Seure, which rises in Poitou, after which it receives the Vendie. It has good harbours, and makes a great quantity of salt. It contains two considerable towns, viz.

ROCHEFORT, a handsome, new, regular-built town, seated on the Charente, about a league and a half from its mouth, and six from Rochelle. It was built by order of Lewis XIV. is strongly fortified, has an excellent dock, with all the necessary magazines and store-houses for shipping, a victualling warehouse, an hospital for sick and wound-

wounded seamen, a foundery, and a manufactory of sail cloth. Here is a very convenient harbour, and the river is so wide and deep, that the largest ships may come up to the town without difficulty or danger. The approach to the town, up the river, is well defended by several forts. The isle of Aix, not far distant from Rochefort, has also a fort; it was however taken by captain (now earl) Howe, in the *Magnanime* in 1757, after about half an hour's resistance; the garrison, consisting of six hundred men, being made prisoners of war.

ROCHELLE, the capital of the province and government, seated on the sea-coast, about four leagues from Oleron. It is a handsome town, strongly fortified, and has a fine port of a circular form. It is also the see of a bishop, suffragan to Bourdeaux. Here is a mint, an academy of belles-lettres, a chamber of commerce, an admiralty, and other courts, and a medical, anatomical, and botanical school. The salt marshes greatly affect the air both here and at Rochefort. In the sixteenth century, the inhabitants of Rochelle joined in the reformation, fortified the town, and held out a siege. In 1622, Lewis XIII. in order to compel them to surrender, ordered Fort Lewis to be erected at the entrance of their harbour; and, in 1768, to prevent their receiving any succours by sea, a mole was raised which surrounded the haven. Famine obliged them to capitulate the same year; in consequence of which they were deprived of their privileges, and the fortifications were demolished; but, in the reign of Lewis XIV. they were repaired. This government also contains several small towns.

THE GOVERNMENT OF POITOU.

POITOU is a very large province, bounded on the north by Touraine and Anjou; on the south by Aunis, Saintonge, and Angoumois; on the east by La Marche, and part of Berry; and on the west by the ocean. It is about forty-eight leagues in length, and twenty-two in breadth. The principal rivers are the Vienne, the Sevre-Nantoise, and the Clain. The principal places in this province are,

POICTIERS, the capital of the province, seated on the river Clain. It is one of the largest cities in the kingdom, but the buildings are mean, and thinly inhabited. It is the seat of an intendency, an election, a country court and royal jurisdiction, a mint, and the see of a bishop, who is suffragan to Bourdeaux. The cathedral, which is of uncommon magnitude, is built in the Gothic stile. Here are also four collegiate, and seventeen parish churches, four abbies, twenty-one convents, two seminaries, three hospitals, and an university founded in the year 1431. Near this town, in 1356, the French were defeated by the English, and John, king of France, was taken prisoner.

CHATELLARAUD, a town on the river Vienne, seven leagues from Poitiers. In 1552, Henry II. of France, conferred it on James Hamilton, earl of Arran, as a reward for his resigning the regency of Scotland in favour of the queen, mother of the unfortunate Mary queen of Scots. It does not appear, however, that this donation

was

was ever absolutely completed. Here are four convents, a collegiate church, and a fine stone-bridge over the Vienne, leading to the suburbs.

The places of less note in this government are Niorte, Richlieu, Mirabeau, Loudun, Luçon, &c.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITANNY.

THIS government is a peninsula, surrounded by the sea, except towards the east, where it borders on Normandy, Maine, Anjou, and Poitou. It is about sixty leagues in length, and forty-five in breadth; and acquired its present name from the Britons, who fled hither from the Saxons about the middle of the fifth century, and, after wandering about for some time, at last settled here. The principal rivers are the Loire and the Vilaine, both of which are navigable. In Upper-Brittany, the inhabitants speak French; but those of Lower Brittany make use of a language very different from that of the rest of France. It has indeed a great affinity with the Welch, the inhabitants being descended from the ancient Britons. This province contains

RENNES, the capital, seated at the conflux of the Isle, and the Vilaine, about fourteen leagues from the sea, though large boats come up quite to the city. It is pretty large and populous. Here are many handsome well-built houses, but the streets are narrow, dark, and dirty. Exclusive of the cathedral, this town is ornamented and enriched with eight parish-churches, seventeen convents, a fine college, and a noble statue of Lewis XV. erected by the states of the province.

NANTES, the second city of Brittany, seated on the river Loire, about eighteen leagues from Rennes, and eight from the sea. Here are, exclusive of the cathedral, and a collegiate church, eleven parish-churches, fourteen convents, two hospitals, an admiralty, a mint-office, and an university founded in 1460. This city is large, populous, and well-situated, and carries on a great trade; though ships of burthen can come no farther up the Loire than to Painboeuf, a market-town, whence the cargoes are carried to Nantes in smaller vessels. It is the see of a bishop suffragan to the archbishop of Tours. This city is famous in history, for the edict issued here in 1594, by Henry IV. for granting to the protestants the public exercise of their religion; but this edict was revoked by Lewis XIV. in 1685. Nantes is celebrated for an excellent sort of brandy.

ST. MALO, a small populous city on a little island in the sea, formerly called St. Aaron, and joined to the continent by a mole or causeway, at the head of which is a strong fort. It is on the northern coast of Brittany, twelve leagues from Rennes, and thirty from Nantes. The harbour is large, but the entrance is very rocky, and at ebb almost dry. On the adjacent rocks, several forts, and other works, have been erected, and the town is furnished with a strong garrison. It carries on a considerable trade with England, Spain, and Holland, and sends a number of ships to the cod-fishery. In time of war, it is finely situated for fitting out privateers. Here are several fine monasteries and churches, and also a court of admiralty.

BREST,

BREST, a small but strong town, having a spacious and fine road and harbour, supposed to be the best and safest in the whole kingdom; but the entrance to it is difficult, on account of the many rocks that are concealed under water. The harbour lies between the town, and the suburb called *Recouvrance*, being defended by a strong fort and a tower, and lined with fine keys, on which are erected warehouses, filled with naval stores for seventy sail of men of war. The road is large enough for five hundred ships of the line. Here is also an arsenal, an academy for sea-officers, a court of admiralty, and a strong garrison. On the island of Ushant, off Cape Conquet, is a fort, and a light-house for the direction of vessels going into Brest. The streets of Brest are very narrow and inconvenient. Here are two docks, very convenient for the building of large ships.

The less considerable places in this province are Painboeuf, Dinan, Vannes, Morlaix, Port-Louis, Port-L'Orient, and Rohan.

THE GOVERNMENT OF NORMANDY.

THIS province is bounded on the north by the British channel; on the south by Maine, Perche, and Beauce; on the east by the isle of France and Picardy; and on the west by Brittany. It is about sixty leagues in length, and thirty in breadth. It is one of the most fruitful provinces in the kingdom. The principal rivers in this province are the Seine, the Eure, the Andell, the Rille, the Dive, the Lezon, the Aure, the Carentone, the Orne, the Ante, and the Drome. William, the bastard duke of Normandy, defeating Harold in 1066, obtained possession of the throne of England.

land. This his successors held, together with the duchy of Normandy, till 1203, when the latter was wrested from them by Philip-Augustus, and annexed to the crown of France. The English, however, recovered it afterwards, and held it about thirty years, when they were driven out by Charles VII. This province is divided into Upper and Lower, and contains

ROUEN, the capital, situated on the north bank of the Seine, in a valley almost environed with hills, at the distance of about twenty-two leagues from Paris. It is the seat of a parliament and admiralty, and of several other courts and offices, as well as of an archbishop. It is a very large, populous, flourishing city, the trade being very considerable; the flood rising so high, that vessels of two hundred tons can come up to it, though it is twelve leagues distant from the mouth of the river. Here are thirty-six parish churches, and sixty-six convents, including four abbeys, and a college. In the cathedral are to be seen the monuments of several kings and other illustrious personages; among which is that of John duke of Bedford, who was regent of France under king Henry VI. of England.

Formerly here was a stately bridge over the Seine, consisting of thirteen arches, but that has been long since demolished, and a curious one, composed of boats, has been substituted in its room. It is a very ingenious structure, extending two hundred and seventy paces in length, and contrived with so much art, that it rises and falls with the tide, and is paved like a street. In the Place aux Veaux is a statue of the celebrated maid of Orleans, who was burnt here as a witch by the English, represented kneeling before Charles VII. The trade of this city is very considerable.

siderable. William I. surnamed the Conqueror, died in this place.

DIEPPE, a sea-port, about ten leagues from Rouen. It has a harbour, which is both long and deep, but narrow, and of difficult access. It was almost demolished by the bombardment of the English in 1694, but has since been rebuilt after the manner of Versailles. The streets are wide and regular; the houses are built of bricks, and supported with arches. The town is separated from the sea by a long wall and a ditch, with towers furnished with cannon and mortars. The mole is very high and strong, and about five hundred yards in length; it forms, with that of the Polet, the entrance of the canal of the harbour. The castle of Dieppe is constructed in the antique manner, and stands on a hill by the sea-side. The inhabitants are laborious, and consist chiefly of seamen; the rest are employed in the ivory manufacture, toys, and bone-lace. When there are no hostilities between England and France, paquets pass and repass regularly between Dieppe and Brighthelmstone, especially during summer.

CAEN, situated at the conflux of the rivers Orne and Onon, in a valley between two large meadows, about twenty leagues from Rouen. It is large and populous, and said to be the second town in Normandy. Exclusive of the collegiate church, here are twelve parish-churches, fifteen convents, two abbies, and a general hospital. Ships of considerable burthen having water sufficient to bring them close to the town; it enjoys a flourishing trade. It has a castle, an university founded in 1542, and an academy of sciences established in 1706. In the *Place-Royal*, which is both spacious

cious and regular, stands an equestrian statue of Lewis XIV. The remains of William the Conqueror were interred in the abbey of St. Stephen in this city, which had been founded by himself.

BAYEUX, an ancient city on the river Aure, which about a mile below loses itself in the ground. It is about five leagues from Caen, and one and a half from the sea. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Rouen. Here are also several inferior courts of justice, seventeen churches, nine convents, two hospitals, and a seminary. The cathedral is one of the handsomest in the province.

CHERBOURG, a sea-port between Cape la Hogue and Barfleur, about fourteen leagues from Coutances. It is well fortified, and the sea, every tide, flows almost round it. The harbour, though small, is very commodious, and has a sufficient depth of water for vessels of three hundred tons.

The smaller towns in this government are Caudebec, Aumale, St. Valeri, Gisors, Evereux, Lisieux, Elbeuf, Honfleur, Barfleur, Avranches, Seez, Falaise, and Argentau.

THE GOVERNMENT OF HAVRE-DE-GRACE.

THIS district constitutes the western part of the country of Caux, in Upper-Normandy; and, though a particular military government, is nevertheless subject to the civil and ecclesiastical government of Normandy. It contains,

HAVRE-DE-GRACE, a strong sea-port town at the mouth of the Seine, built by Francis, who
also

also called it after his own name Ville-François. It is a small fortified place, nearly of a square figure, divided into two parts by the harbour, surrounded by a wall and other works, and defended by a very strong citadel. It is one of the most important places in France, on account of its foreign trade and convenient harbour; for which reason it was made a distinct government from that of Normandy. It is also the seat of the government and several inferior courts of justice. Here is also a church, two convents, and a seminary.

The small places, are Harfleur and Feschamp.

THE GOVERNMENT OF MAINE AND PERCHE.

THIS government includes the province of Maine, together with the country and earldom of Laval, and the greatest part of the territory of Perche.

The government of Maine contains Alençon, Mans, the capital, Maienne, and Laval; that of Perche, the towns of Mortagne and Bellesme.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ORLEANOIS.

THIS territory comprehends the several districts of Orleanois-Propre, Beauce-Propre or Chartrain, Dunois, Vendomois, Blaisois, the greatest part of Gatinois, and Perche-Gouet. It is watered by the rivers Loire, Loiret, Cher, Laconie, Aigle, Yonne, Hyere, and Evre. Here are also some remarkable canals, particularly those of Briare and Orleans. The Briare, which obtained its name from a little town near it, was begun in the reign of Henry the Great, and finished under

Lewis XIII. It joins the river Loire with the Loing, which falls into the Seine, and consequently opens a communication between the countries lying on the Loire and the city of Paris. The canal of Orleans also unites with the two rivers above mentioned, beginning about two miles above the city of Orleans, and ending in the Loing near the village of Cepoy; being eighteen leagues in length, and containing thirty sluices. These rivers and canals greatly facilitate and promote the inland trade of the kingdom, and particularly of this government. Orleanois is bound on the north by Upper-Beauce; on the south by Salogne; on the west by Dunois and Vendomois; and on the east by Gatinois. The Loire divides it into upper and lower; the former lying to the north, and the latter to the south of that river. It abounds in grain, wine, fruit, cattle, game, fish, and wood; and contains,

ORLEANS, the capital of the Orleanois, and one of the largest and pleasantest cities in the whole kingdom. It is seated on the Loire, over which it has a handsome stone-bridge on which is erected a beautiful monument of cast brass. In the centre of this monument is seen a crucifix, on the top of which stands a pelican with its brood pecking its own breast: before the crucifix is the Virgin-Mary, sitting with the dead body of Christ, reclined on her lap. On the right side Charles VII. is represented kneeling, and stretching out both his hands towards the cross; and, on the left, the celebrated maid of Orleans, or Joan D'Arc, also represented kneeling, who in 1429 relieved the city when invested by the English. Both are armed *cap-a-pie*, with swords by their sides. A solemn procession is annually observed here on the 12th

of

of May, in commemoration of the deliverance of this city.

The streets, in general, are small and narrow, but the principal one is broad as well as long. Here are four large squares, including the market-place; and the cathedral is one of the finest in the kingdom, though it is built after the gothic manner, and has suffered much during the civil wars. The collegiate church of St. Aignan is one of the largest and most ancient in the city. Here are also twenty-two parish-churches, an abbey, three chapters, an university, a seminary, a public library, and several courts of justice. Most of the inhabitants are poor, though some of the trading people are remarkably rich. This city has considerable dealings in brandy, wine, grain, and spices, and carries on large manufactures in stockings and other articles. During the time of the Merovingian line, this city was the royal residence for upwards of one hundred years, till Clotharius II. united this state to the crown. Lewis XIV. gave it to his brother Philip, who began and finished the canal, in which family it still continues. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Paris.

CHARTRES, a city, fourteen leagues from Paris, and thirteen from Orleans, divided by the river Eure into two parts, the largest of which stands on an eminence, and has very narrow streets. It is the capital of Chartrain and Beauce, and belongs to the house of Orleans. The cathedral is a fine structure, adorned with two steeples of most curious workmanship; whence it is a common observation, that to form a church perfectly complete in all its parts, recourse must be had to the choir of Beauvois, the nave of Amiens, the front

and great gate of Rheims, the towers of Paris, and the steeples of Chartres. Here are also six parish-churches, three abbies, a priory, nine convents, a seminary, two hospitals, and several inferior courts of justice. The grove of the Druids mentioned by Cæsar, was on a hill near this town. It is the see of a bishop.

The small towns in this district are Gallardon, Nogent le Roi, Epernon, Bonneval, and Maintenance; the last of which gave title of marchioness to madame Frances D'Aubigné, widow of the celebrated poet Scarron; and the female favourite, if not the wife of Lewis XIV.

The country of DUNOIS is very fruitful in grain, and contains the small towns of Chateaudun, Patley, and Freteval. The territory of Vendomois comprehends the towns of Vendome, and Montoire.

BLASOIS is a fine country, divided into upper and lower, and bounded on the north by Beauce; on the south by Berry; on the east by Orléans; and on the west by Touraine. The most considerable place in this territory is,

BLOIS, the capital of the country whence it derives its name, seated in a pleasant country, on a small eminence on the river Loire, over which it has a handsome stone bridge. The castle is the ornament of this city. On the first view, it has the appearance of two distinct buildings, but it is joined by a passage cut out of a rock. That part of the castle which was built by the duke of Orleans, instead of that which he demolished in 1632, is a superb edifice, but never was quite finished.

finished. The court before it, where the church of St. Saviour is built, is extremely large, and was formerly used for tournaments.

The gardens are answerable to the beauty and magnificence of the castle, the entrance into which is over a bridge upon the ditch, and through a street which parts them. On every gate of the city is to be seen an image of the Virgin-Mary, who they believe delivered them from the plague in 1631. Blois is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Paris. In the castle are shewn the chambers where the duke of Guise, and his brother the cardinal, were murdered, in 1588.

The church of St. Solenne is the cathedral, and is a beautiful structure. The front of the Jesuit's college is decorated with three orders of architecture, the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian, but there is only the Doric on the inside. About three quarters of a mile from the city, plenty of water pours down the clefts of a rock into a large aqueduct, by which it is conveyed to a reservoir near the walls; whence it is distributed by leaden pipes to the several parts of the city. The trade of Blois is chiefly in wine and brandy, though there are manufactures of stuffs and serges. Several kings have kept their courts here, and the French language is spoken in the greatest perfection by the inhabitants.

THE GOVERNMENT OF NIVERNOIS.

THIS government is bounded to the north by Gatinois, and Auxerrois; on the south by Bourbonnois; on the east by Burgundy; and on the west by Berry. Three of the rivers, with which it is watered, are navigable: viz. the Loire, the Allier, and the Yonne. The other streams are the

the Nevre, the Arrou, the Alain, the Quenne, the Audarge, the Aubeis, the Narcy, &c. The principal place it contains is,

NEVERS, which obtained its name from the little river Nievre, that falls, near the town, into the Loire. It is a bishop's see, and besides the cathedral, has eleven parish churches, two abbies, several convents, a college, and a castle. The palace of the dukes of Nevers is a spacious pile of building. Here is a handsome stone bridge over the Loire, the end of which is a great causeway which reaches to the town. The manufactures of porcelain, glass, and iron, in this town, are very considerable.

The smaller places are Clamecy, Chateau, Desize, and La-Charité.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BOURBONNOIS.

THIS province is bounded on the east by Burgundy, and Forez; on the west by Upper-Marché; on the north by Nivernois and Berry; and on the south by Auvergne; being about thirty leagues in length, and twenty in breadth. The snow on the mountains of Auvergne make the air very often cold, and in the month of July, when it usually melts, great damage is done by the inundations of the Allier, which is one of the principal rivers in the government; the others being the Loire and Cher, besides several inferior streams.

From the ancient dukes of this province, the present royal family of France is descended. It contains

MOULINS, the capital of Bourbonnois, seated on the Allier, about ten leagues from Nevers, and

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one of the neatest and pleasantest cities in the kingdom. It acquired its name from the number of mills in its neighbourhood, *moulin*, in the French language signifying a mill. Here are several churches, five convents, several courts of justice, and manufactures of hard-ware, steel, and iron; the cutlery here, in particular, being in high esteem throughout Europe, both on account of the temper and the beauty of the workmanship. Near the town is a mineral spring, and in the church belonging to the nuns of the visitation, is the sumptuous tomb of the noble duke Henry II. of Monmorenci, who fell a sacrifice to the resentment of cardinal Richlieu.

The smaller places are Bourbon, L'Archambaud, Montlucon, Le Veudre, St. Amand, and Villefranche.

THE GOVERNMENT OF LIONNOIS.

THIS government comprehends the three small provinces of Lionnois, Forez, and Beaujolois; and is bounded to the south by Vivarais and Velais; to the north by Macconnois and Burgundy; to the west by Auvergne; and to the east it is separated from Bresse and Dauphiné by the Soane and the Rhone. It produces corn, wine, and fruit, and is particularly famous for its excellent chesnuts. It is watered by the Rhone, the Soane, the Loire, and several smaller rivers.

LIONNOIS, properly so called, is twelve leagues in length, and about seven in breadth. Anciently it was subject either to counts, or to the archbishop and chapter of Lyons, but, in 1563, the jurisdiction devolved to the crown.

The

The principal, and almost the only place that merits a description is,

LYONS, the capital of the province, and of the whole government, one of the finest and most considerable cities in Europe, seated at the conflux of the Rhone and Soane; the latter of which runs through part of the city. It is said to have been founded by Lucius Munatius Plancus, about forty-two years before Christ. Some remains are still to be seen of the stately buildings with which the Romans adorned this city. It is the see of an archbishop. The mountain of St. Sebastian serves as a bulwark against the north winds, which often blow here with great violence.

It contains about two hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants, and above five thousand houses, which, in general, are high and well-built: it has also six gates, and as many suburbs. The town-house, the arsenal, the amphitheatre, built by the Romans, the hospital, and the numerous palaces, are worthy a traveller's attention. The cathedral is a superb structure, and the canons, who compose the chapter, are all persons of distinction. It is a place of great trade, which is not only extended through France, but to Italy, Switzerland, and Spain.

After Paris, says Dr. Moore, Lyons is the most magnificent town in France, enlivened by industry, enriched by commerce, beautified by wealth, and by its situation, in the middle of a fertile country, and at the confluence of the Soane and the Rhone. The inhabitants are estimated at two hundred thousand. The theatre is supposed to be the finest in France; and all the luxuries of Paris are to be found at Lyons, though not in equal perfection.

Moore's Tr.

Mrs.

Mrs. Piozzi, who was here in September 1784, also tells us, that the stately city of Lyons is very happily and finely situated: the Rhone, flowing by its side, inviting mills, manufactures, &c. The avenue here, which leads to one of the greatest objects in the nation, is most worthy of that object's dignity indeed: the marriage of two rivers, which, having their sources at a prodigious distance from each other, meet here, and together roll their beneficial tribute to the sea. Howell's remark, that the Soane resembles a Spaniard in the slowness of its current, and that the Rhone is emblematical of French rapidity, cannot be kept a moment out of my head; it is equally observable, that the junction adds little in appearance to their strength and grandeur; and that each makes a better figure *separate* than *united*. The manufactures here (at Lyons) deserve a volume: nothing I ever saw at London, or Paris, can compare with the beauty of these velvets. The hangings for the empress of Russia's bed-chamber are wonderfully executed; the design elegant, the colour brilliant. A screen too for the Grand Signior is finely finished here. Such was the hospitality I have here been witness to, and such the luxuries of the Lyonnois at table, that I counted thirty-six dishes where we dined, and twenty-four where we supped. Every thing was served up in silver in both places, and all was uniformly magnificent, except the linen, which might have been finer. These are merchants, I am told, with whom I have been living. *Piozzi's Tr. i. 28.*

Here are also four large annual fairs, which are attended by multitudes of people. Indeed it derives great advantage from the two navigable rivers on which it stands. Here are two fine squares, in one of which is an equestrian statue in brass of Lewis XIV. This city has also a beau-

tiful town-house, a noble stone bridge over the Rhone, three collegiate churches, thirteen parish churches, several convents, three hospitals, a mint, three forts, an exchange, an observatory, and a public library. It has long been famous for the manufactories of gold and silver stuffs, gold and silver laces, and silks of every kind.

In the town-house is an ancient plate of brass, on which is engraved the oration, delivered before the Roman senate, by the emperor Claudius, when he was censor, in behalf of the citizens of Lyons. Round the city are several mountains, which being variegated with convents, seats, gardens, and vineyards, form a very delightful appearance.

FOREZ, is a district divided into upper and lower, and had formerly counts of its own, but was annexed to the crown by Francis I. in 1532. It is a large fruitful valley, watered by the Loire, and several inferior streams. Its towns are Fleurs, St. Galmiere, Montbrison, Beaujolois, and St. Etienne.

THE GOVERNMENT OF AUVERGNE.

THIS province is bounded to the east by Forez; to the north by Bourbonnois; to the west by Limosin, Quercy, and la Manche; and to the south by Rouergne and Cevennes. It is divided into upper and lower, and is about forty leagues in length, and thirty in breadth. This province is watered by the Allier, the Dardogne, and the Alagnon; and its chief manufactures are silks, stuffs, cloths, laces, paper, and iron-work. With these articles, together with grain, wine, cattle, cheese,

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cheese, and coals, it carries on a great trade. Upper and Lower Auvergne contain the following places:

ST. FLOUR, the capital, seated at the foot of Mount-Cantal, one of the highest in Auvergne, and of difficult access. It is the see of a bishop. This town has a considerable trade in grain; and its knives, cloths, and carpets, are in high esteem.

CLERMONT, the capital of the whole province, standing on a small eminence between the rivers Artier and Bedat. It was built by the emperor Augustus, but obtained its modern name from the castle of Clermont which stood near it. Exclusive of the cathedral, here are three collegiate churches, three abbeys, and several convents. In the abbey of St. Allire, the bodies of several saints lie deposited. Clermont is a bishop's see. It is a populous town, but the streets are narrow, and the houses dark. In the neighbourhood are several petrifying springs.

The places of less note are Aurillac, Murat, Mauriac, Vic, Riom, Aigueperse, Thiers, and Brioude.

THE GOVERNMENT OF LIMOSIN.

LIMOSIN, or LIMOUSIN, is bounded on the north by La Marche and Poitou; on the south by Querci; on the east by Auvergne; and on the west by Perigord and Angoumois. It is twenty-five leagues in length, and about twenty-two in breadth, and is divided into upper and lower. Its principal rivers are the Vienne, the Vezere,

the Coureze, and the Dordogne. It is divided into Upper and Lower Limosin, and contains,

LIMOGES, the capital of Upper Limosin, seated on the river Vienne, sixty-five leagues from Paris. It is far from being a handsome town, though it is the see of a bishop. There are some squares in this city which are ornamented with fountains, but the streets are narrow and crooked. Limoges carries on a considerable trade, especially in leather paper and woollen cloths. It is enriched with a cathedral, a collegiate church, three abbies, a convent, and a seminary, together with some remains of antiquity; particularly four aqueducts built by the Romans.

CHALUS, a small town having the title of an earldom, six leagues from Limoges. Richard I. king of England, going to besiege this place, received a wound from an arrow-shot by a cross-bow-man, of which he died, April, 6, 1199.

TULLE, properly **TUELLE**, the capital of Lower Limosin, situated near the conflux of the little rivers Coureze and Solan, is fourteen leagues from Limoges. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Bourges. Here are six convents and several inferior courts of justice; and the jesuits, before they were suppressed in France, had a handsome college here.

St. Leonard, Sauteraine, Brive, Turenne, Beaulieu, and St. Cere, are small towns.

THE GOVERNMENT OF LA MARCHE.

THIS territory borders to the east on Auvergne; to the south on Limosin; to the west on Poitou; and

and to the north on Berry; it is twenty-two leagues in length, and ten in breadth, lying within the jurisdiction of the parliament of Paris. The rivers are the Vienne, the Great and Little Creuse, the Cher, and the Gartempe. It is fruitful in corn, and produces some wine, and contains the small towns of Gueret, Aubusson, Feletin, &c.

THE GOVERNMENT OF BERRY.

THIS government is bounded on the north by Orleanois; on the south by Bourbonnois and Marche; on the west by Touraine; and on the east by Nivernois. It is thirty-five leagues in length, and twenty-eight in breadth. The rivers which water this province are the Loire, the Creuse, the Cher, the Larger and Lesser Soudre, the Indre, the Orron, the Aurette, the Moulon, and the Evre. Here is also a lake, about seven or eight leagues in circuit, called the lake of Villiers. The principal places it contains are,

BOURGES, the capital, situated at the conflux of the Eure with the Avron and other rivulets. It is the see of an archbishop, who is stiled primate and patriarch of Aquitaine. The parish-church dedicated to St. Stephen, is a fine old gothic structure. Bourbon-square is the largest in the city. Here is a fine walk from St. Michael's-gate into the fields, and three alleys, formed by four ranks of trees, the middlemost of which is spacious. This city is of large extent, and has some peculiar privileges; but it is thinly peopled, and has little or no trade. Here is an university, which is one of the most ancient in the kingdom; a palace built by John of France, duke of Berry, a beautiful chapel, built by the same prince, and called

called the holy-chapel; a stately town-house, and the palace of the archbishop. Exclusive of its cathedral, this city is ornamented with four collegiate churches, besides the two annexed to the seminary; sixteen parish churches, four abbeys, several convents, &c. the clergy, and their dependents forming a considerable part of the inhabitants.

ISSOUDUN, a large town, situated in a beautiful plain, on the little river Theols, about six leagues from Bourges. This place has some particular privileges, several manufactories, and a considerable trade, especially in timber. It is divided into the upper and lower town, and has a castle, two collegiate and four parish churches, one abbey, five convents, and two hospitals.

The places of less note in this government are Sancerre, Chateauneuf, Chateau-Roux, Argenton, and Montraud.

THE GOVERNMENT OF TOURAINE.

THIS government and its capital derive their names from the Turones, being bounded to the north by the river Maine; to the east by Orleans; to the south by Berry and Poitou; and to the west terminating on Anjou. Its length is twenty-four leagues, and its breadth about twenty-two. The principal rivers of this province are, the Loire, the Cher, the Creuse, and the Vienne. It contains,

TOURS, the capital of the province, situated on the Loire, about eleven leagues from Blois. It is the see of an archbishop, and is ornamented with a fine bridge over the Loire, a cathedral,
three

three abbies, twelve convents, and a castle. The houses being built with a very white stone, form a pleasing appearance, and the streets are tolerably clean. The manufacture of silks and brocades was formerly so great in this city, that the number of weavers are said to have amounted to twenty thousand. Here are still some silk and cloth manufactories of great eminence, though far inferior to what they have been.

AMBOISE, a town situated at the conflux of the rivers Amasse and Loire, having a fine stone bridge over the latter. Near this town is a very large castle, standing on a high rock, in which are to be seen the statues of Charles VIII. and his consort Anne.

The smaller places in this government are Loches, Chatillon, Chinon, Montbuzon, and Beaulieu.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ANJOU.

THIS government is bounded to the east by Touraine; to the south by Poutou; to the west by Bretagne; and northward by the river Maine. Its length is twenty-six leagues, and its breadth about twenty-four. This government is watered with forty-nine rivers and rivulets, six of which are navigable, viz. the Loire, Tienne, Maienne, Toue, and Sarte. The principal places are,

ANGERS, the capital, situated on the river Maienne, not far from where the Loire and Sarte fall into it; the Maienne dividing the city into two equal parts. It has a castle, flanked with eighteen large round towers, and a strong half-moon.

moon. The cathedral is remarkable for the length and height of its great nave, which is without pillars, and is thought to be the finest in the kingdom. It contains a treasure, which is never shown but on great festival days.

Angers is a large city, and the see of a bishop, who is suffragan to the archbishop of Tours. It contains an university, founded by St. Lewis, an academy of belles-lettres, instituted in 1685, seven chapters besides the cathedral, sixteen parish-churches, four abbies, several convents, a salt-office, a mint and some remains of Roman antiquities. The first walls of the city were built by John, king of England, and duke of Anjou. Here are two large bridges, which keep up a communication between the two parts of the city. At the end of the suburb of Bressigny, are the quarries of Angiers, so famous for the fine slate which they produce; the pieces being of the thickness of a crown-piece, and a foot-square. All the houses here are covered with this slate; whence it has acquired the appellation of the Black-City.

The towns of less note are Chateau-Gontier, Saumur, Brissac, La Fleche, Passavant, &c.

THE GOVERNMENT OF FRENCH FLANDERS.

THIS government comprehends certain tracts in the Netherlands, viz. a part of the earldom of Flanders, the Cambresis, the province of Hainault, the bishopric of Liege, and the county of Namur. These are commonly called the French Netherlands; and this government comprehends French Flanders, the Cambresis, French-Hainault, and the French part of the earldom of Namur. It is bounded to the east by the Austrian Netherlands; to the west by the German ocean;

ocean; to the north by the Seine and the German ocean; and to the south by Artois. French Flanders is a part of the earldom of Flanders, which Lewis XIV. over-ran it in 1667. It abounds in grain and garden vegetables, flax, and cattle; but for want of wood, turf is their common fuel.

LISLE, or LILLE, the capital of French Flanders, and of all the French Netherlands, being also the residence of the governor-general. It is seated on the river Deule, and is a large, populous, beautiful city, surpassed by few in Europe for its situation, the regularity of its streets, and its fortifications. The market-place, to which all the principal streets lead, is divided into two by a fine exchange, built after the manner of that in London, having four gates into the market-place. The street called La Rue Royale, is one of the longest, straightest, and most uniform in Europe, extending from the market-place to the citadel, almost an English mile.

Here are several beautiful squares, particularly that of the mint. The French first got possession of this city in the reign of Lewis the Fair, afterwards it belonged to the dukes of Burgundy, then to the House of Austria; from whom it was taken, in 1667, by Lewis XIV. together with several other places. The citadel is one of the finest in Europe. This city carries on an extensive trade, not only with France, but with Holland, Spain, and the West Indies. Lisle has always a strong garrison, and the inhabitants contribute annually a large sum towards keeping the fortifications in repair.

DOUAY, a city in French Flanders, of an oval figure, seated on the river Scarpe. It is larger than Lisle, but has not above one-third of the inhabitants.

habitants. It is well fortified; and, by means of sluices, can lay the whole country under water. The walls are irregular, and defended by antique round towers, a large ditch full of water, and a good covered way. Towards Artois there is a great horn-work, the front of which is fortified with a half-moon, and a covered way. On the ramparts are several cavaliers of earth, in the form of bastions. The fort of Scarpe is seated on the river of the same name, and is within cannon-shot of Douay. It is a regular pentagon, surrounded with a ditch full of water, in which there are three half-moons, fortified with a covered way, and a glacis. Beyond the glacis is another advanced ditch, with a great inundation.

An university was erected here in 1559, by Philip III. king of Spain. Here is also a famous seminary for English Roman catholics, and two English convents for men, among many others, for the natives of the country. It was taken by the French in 1667, by the allies in 1710; and the French retook it in 1712.

GRAVELINES, a small strong town on the river Aa, near the English channel; having a good harbour for small vessels. The fortifications consist of six bastions, four half-moons, and a horn-work, all constructed by marshal Vauban. It has a parish-church, a castle built by Charles V. and a town-house, all pretty good buildings. Here are several convents both for men and women, and, among the rest, an English nunnery of the order of St. Clare. It has no trade, and is very thinly inhabited. It was taken by the English in 1383, by the French in 1644, by the Austrians in 1652, and by marshal de la Ferte in 1658. It was retained by the French at the treaty of

of the Pyrenees. It is about eight miles from Calais, and fifteen from Dunkirk.

CAMBRAY, the capital of the Cambresis, and an archiepiscopal see, seated on the Scheld. It is defended by good fortifications, and has a fort on the side of the river: the adjacent land can also be laid under water, by means of sluices. Clo-dion became master of Cambray in 445. The Danes burnt it afterwards; since which time it became a free imperial city. It has been the constant subject of contest between the emperors, the kings of France, and the earls of Flanders, but the king of France became master of it in 1677, in whose hands it has ever since remained.

The buildings of Cambray are tolerably handsome, and the streets fine and spacious. The cathedral, dedicated to the Virgin-Mary, is one of the finest in Europe. The chapel of Notre-Dame, in the same cathedral, is very magnificent, and contains, it is said, a picture of the visitation, painted by St. Luke, enriched with precious stones. The tabernacle of this chapel is silver, and constantly illuminated with twenty lamps of considerable value. The citadel is very advantageously situated on high ground, and commands the whole city. Cambray is one of the finest and most opulent cities in the low countries, and manufactures great quantities of cambrick, which derives its name from this city. The archbishop of Cambray, who is lord of the city, styles himself prince of the holy Roman empire, and count of Cambresis. Besides the cathedral, here are two chapters, ten parish-churches, two abbies, and two hospitals.

The other towns of any note, in this government, are, Valenciennes, Chateau-Cambresis, Condé, Bouchain, and Charlemont.

THE GOVERNMENT OF DUNKIRK.

THE government of Dunkirk contains only the town of the same name, Mardyke, and some neighbouring villages.

DUNKIRK, or DUNKERQUE, stands at the mouth of the Colm, on the coast of the north sea, about seven leagues from Gravelines, deriving its name from a church built here on the *Duns* or sand banks.

This town became of consequence, by degrees, and in 1322 had a castle; which was demolished by the rebels in Flanders. It was afterwards rebuilt, and again demolished. Charles V. emperor of Germany, built a castle here, for the defence of the port, in 1538. In 1558, it was taken and destroyed by the French; and, in the following year, by the treaty of Chateau Cambresis, it was delivered up to Spain. In 1646 it was again invested by the French, who took it after seventeen days siege. The Spaniards soon became masters of it again; but in 1658, after the Spanish troops had been defeated by the French, this town became the first fruits of their victory, and was ceded to the English for assisting France against Spain. In 1662, Charles II. of England, sold the town to France for five millions of livres; by which means Lewis XIV. obtained also the villages which the English had built round Dunkirk, among which was that of Mardyke. In consequence of which the French king, in 1664, began to alter and repair the castle, finished the citadel, erected Fort-Lewis, and cut a canal, which would admit a man of war of sixty guns.

Several

Several other forts were also erected at different distances ; and a basin was cut which would contain several men of war and other ships. Magnificent barracks, a sea-arsenal, and many other buildings were erected. In pursuance of an article in the treaty of Utrecht in 1713, all these fortifications were demolished, and the harbour filled up ; but both the harbour and fortifications were afterwards repaired. The demolition of these works was made an article of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, in 1748 ; but in the last treaty of peace, the French refused to submit to those restrictions, and are now at liberty to make the town and harbour as commodious and invincible as they can. The streets of Dunkirk are wide, straight, and well-paved ; the houses are chiefly of brick, and very high. St. John's-church is the principal, the choir of which is large and well adorned. The jesuits church in Notre-Dame-street is a fine structure. Here are several convents for monks and nuns.

MARDYKE, a small town about three miles from Dunkirk, is celebrated on account of the noble canal erected there, with its sluice and basins, by order of Lewis XIV.

THE GOVERNMENT OF METZ.

THIS district consists of the districts of Meszin, French Berras, La Saare, and French Luxemburgh. By Meszin is meant the territory round the city of Metz, in Lorraine, which was yielded for ever to the French by the treaty of Westphalia, together with the other districts in the bishopric of Metz. The only place worth mentioning, in this government is,

METZ,

METZ, the capital, situated at the conflux of the Moselle and Seille, is the see of a bishop, suffragan to Treves. This city is divided into the old and new; the former is large, but the streets are narrow; the houses however are handsome, though old fashioned; the latter is also large, but more beautiful than the other. Exclusive of the fortifications, here are three citadels, sixteen parish churches, six abbies, three chapters, a college, and a Jewish synagogue. A great number of jews inhabit this town, but they are confined to a particular quarter along the bank of the Moselle, in which they may not only hire, but even purchase houses. They are compelled to wear yellow caps, in order to distinguish them from others.

This city was formerly much larger than it is at present, though it is still an agreeable handsome place, and is above four miles in circumference. The cathedral is one of the finest in France, and contains a font of one single piece of porphyry. The inhabitants carry on a considerable trade, particularly in candied fruits, which are greatly esteemed. About five miles from the city may be seen the remains of a Roman aqueduct, deserving the attention of the curious. Metz is twenty-five miles from Nancy, and one hundred and fifty from Paris.

The small places are Ennary, Bionville, Thionville, Danvilliers, Montmedy, Bouillon, Saar, Louis, &c.

THE GOVERNMENT OF LORRAIN AND BAR.

THE Duchy of Lorraine, called also Lothier, derives its name from Lotharius II. grandson to the

the emperor Lewis I. to whom it was assigned by his father Lotharius, in the partition of his dominions among his sons. To the east this country is bounded by the Lower-Palatinate and Alsace; to the north it terminates on the provinces of the Netherlands; westward on Champagne; and southward on Franche-Comté. It is one hundred miles in length, and upwards of ninety in breadth, where broadest. Though this government is mountainous and woody, yet the soil is in general, fruitful, producing plenty of grain, wine, hemp, and pasture. Nor is it deficient in game, salt-springs, and precious stones. The most considerable of its rivers are the Moselle, the Maas, the Meurte, the Soane, the Saar and the Vezouse. In 1734, the French king when he declared war against the emperor Charles VI. in conjunction with the kings of Spain and Sardinia, seized both duchies; which, by the peace of 1735, was ceded to Stanislaus, king of Poland, father-in-law to Lewis XV, and after his demise, to the crown of France, to which they now belong. The principal place in Lorrain is,

NANCY, the capital, situated on the river Meurte, about twenty miles from Metz, and is divided into the old and new town, of which the latter is the largest and most beautiful; but the ducal palace is in the former, which is also fortified. The new town is composed of broad straight streets, consisting of many beautiful houses, but they are generally low, according to the custom of the country. Here are three parish and three collegiate churches, two abbies, seventeen convents, a college, an academy of sciences, a commandery of the knights of Malta, and a rich hospital for the maintenance of great numbers of

the poor. The cathedral which is a stately building, is immediately subject to the pope. In the church of St. George is to be seen the monument of Charles the Bold, duke of Burgundy, who was slain while he was besieging this city in 1476. Nancy was formerly fortified; but, by the peace of Ryswick, became dismantled.

It also contains the small towns of Luneville, St. Nicholas, Mirecourt, Retiremont, &c.

The DUCHY of BAR, or BARROIS, is very fertile, and contains the following places: Bar-le-Duc, Pont-de-Mousson, Ligni, &c.

THE GOVERNMENT OF VERDUN AND THE VERDUNOIS.

THIS government extends along the Maas, and abounds in small towns and villages, which are divided into several prevotés; but the only place of any consequence, is that from which it has obtained its name, viz.

VERDUN, seated on the Maas, about thirty-four miles from Metz, is large and populous, being also well fortified, and having a fine citadel. It is also the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Triers. Besides the cathedral, here are nine parish-churches, six abbeys, and one college. In 1552, this city put itself under the protection of France, and, in 1648, fell absolutely under its power.

THE

THE GOVERNMENT OF TOUL AND TOULOIS.

THIS territory, which is quite hemmed in by Lorraine, is but small. The cities of Metz, Toul, and Verdun, together with their bishoprics, were ceded to the French by the treaty of Westphalia, in 1648. There is but one town in this government, the name of which is

TOUL, a pretty large place, and the see of a bishop. This city is seated on the Moselle, over which it has a handsome stone-bridge, about fourteen miles from Nancy. It is well fortified, and ornamented with a fine cathedral, one collegiate and four parish-churches, three abbies, two priories, seven convents, two hospitals, a commandery of Malta, and a seminary.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ALSACE.

THIS government is bounded on the east by the Ortenau and Brisgau; to the west by Lorraine and Burgundy, to the north by the Palatinate; and to the south by Switzerland and the Elsgau. It is about sixty miles in length.

The principal rivers which water this territory are the Rhine, the Leber, the Cher, the Andlau, the Ergers, the Breusch, the Sorr, the Saltzbach, the Motter, the Queich, the Ber, the Lauter, and the Ill. The Rhine serves as a security to the country, but frequently causes terrible devastations, not only in winter but even in the height of summer, when the snow melts upon the Alps. Its inundations injures the fertility of the fields by covering them with sand. The violent torrents of the Rhine, which generally happen once a year, frequently alter the

situation of the islands in it, and the banks on the Alsace side. It is remarkable, that in the sand of this river are found particles of gold; which the torrents in their fall wash from the Alps, and bring into the Rhine. It is therefore only below Basil that the sand contains this precious mixture, which in some depths, called the gold-grounds, run together, and in autumn and winter, when the river is at the lowest, are drawn out among the sand. The Rhine also contains many crystals, and particularly pebbles, which are called Rhine-pebbles. There are several lakes in Alsace, the principal of which are the Schwarze, Weisse, and the Daren-See.

The common language of the inhabitants is the German, and the religion either Lutheranism or popery: their number is computed at about half a million. At the peace of Munster, the emperor yielded to France the town of Brisac, the Landgravate of Upper and Lower Alsace, the Sundgau, and the district of the ten imperial cities, in Alsace, with the sovereignty thereof; and at the peace of Ryswick, in 1697, the emperor and the empire ceded to France the perpetual sovereignty of the city of Strasburgh, and of all its dependencies on the left side of the Rhine. The principal places in Lower Alsace are,

STRASBURGH, a large, handsome, strong, and populous city, the capital of the whole country, surrounded by the rivers Ill and Breusch, which also flow through it. It is well fortified, and can be laid under water. Eastward, towards the Rhine, it has a regular citadel, the cannon of which reaches Kehl. The number of inhabitants is computed at about forty thousand; the streets, which amount to two hundred, are in general narrow, and not adorned with many handsome houses. The ramparts, being planted with trees, form a

plea-

pleasant and extensive walk. The bridge over the Rhine is about an English mile in length, on which a toll is demanded from all passengers, whether on foot or on horseback, as well as upon all carriages. The garrison usually consists of about eight thousand men; and a theatre is supported by a monthly deduction from the pay of the officers.

The cathedral of Strasburgh merits particular notice. The ornaments presented to this church by Lewis XIV. are said to have cost six hundred thousand dollars: its steeple is one of the highest in Europe, and is ascended by six hundred and fifty-four steps. The great bell in it weighs upwards of ten tons; and another, distinguished by the name of the silver bell, being principally composed of that metal, two tons and six hundred weight, which is rung only twice a year. This church is also ornamented with a curious large clock, exhibiting the various motions of the planets. Exclusive of the valuable articles presented by Lewis XIV. there are belonging to this church, a tripal set of missal vestments, six large silver chandeliers, each of which requires a strong man to carry it, and a crucifix of double that weight.

The other public buildings of any note, are the episcopal palace, the arsenal, the play-house, and the royal and city hospitals. The physic garden, and the anatomical theatre, in this city, are well worth visiting. Here are also four convents, together with a Lutheran university and gymnasium; a royal society, founded in 1572, and particularly instituted for the natural history of Alsace; and a great many churches; most of which are now in the hands of the papists: though the city counsel is half Lutheran, and half Roman catholic, and most of the burghers Lutherans.

LANDAU, an important fortification, situated on the river Queich. The town in general is well built and regular, and contains four churches and a chapter. Being commanded on every side by eminences, Vauban exerted his utmost skill in fortifying it; and near it stands a fort on a hill. In 1702, it was taken by the Austrians; in 1703, recovered by the French; the imperialists again became masters of it in 1704; and it was once more taken from them in 1713. By the treaty of Baden, in 1714, this town, together with the villages and fortifications belonging to it, was ceded to France.

The less important towns in Alsace are Hagenuau, Weissenburg, Fort Louis, Zabern, Colmar, Munster, New Brisach, Zellenberg, Befort, Muhlhausen, and Dammerkirch.

THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCHE-COMTE.

THE government of Burgundy, or Franche-Comté, is bounded to the north by Lorrain; to the east by the earldom of Mulpergard; and to the south and west by the government of Champagne and Burgundy. It is thirty leagues in length, and in breadth about twenty.

The principal rivers in this government are the Soane, the Ougnon, the Doux, the Dain, and the Louve. Near Leugne is a natural cavern of ice, which thaws in winter, and freezes in summer. Lewis XIV. took this province in 1688, but was obliged to restore it the year after; he again got possession of it in 1674, and had it confirmed to him by the treaties of Nimeguen and Ryswick. It contains,

BE.

BESANCON, the capital, seated on the river Doux, which divides it into the upper and lower town. It is the see of an archbishop. It is one of the most ancient cities of Europe, the streets are wide and handsome, the houses are well-built with free-stone, and covered with slate. The square called Battan, is adorned with fountains, the water of which proceeds from the statue of Bacchus. The river Doux is passed over on a stone bridge. The metropolitan church is built at the bottom of St. Stephen's-hill, and is a very handsome structure, with a high steeple. The great altar is placed in the middle choir, where on high days they expose reliques on silver shrines, enriched with gold and jewels.

Here is also a triumphal arch, erected in honour of the emperor Aurelian, on which are several figures of men and animals, pretty entire: it serves as a gate to the cloister of St. John the Great. Here are two chapters, eight parish churches, four abbies, twelve convents, three hospitals, with a parliament, a university, and a seminary. The university was removed from Dole to this city in 1691. Besançon is well fortified, and defended by two citadels.

SALINS, a pretty large town, seated in a valley on the little river Furieuse, six leagues from Besançon. It obtained its name from the salt springs, which are here in very large caves; whence the water is raised by cranes, pumps, and engines, conveyed into reservoirs, and afterwards into iron kettles, where it is boiled into salt. The waters are supposed to acquire their saltiness in their passage through mines of salt, and not as coming from the sea.

This government also contains the smaller towns of Dole, Gray, Vesoul, Pontarlier, Belvoir, Arbois, &c.

THE
UNITED NETHERLANDS;

OR,

REPUBLIC OF HOLLAND.

THE United Netherlands, which we here particularly speak of, form the northern part of the Netherlands, and consist of those places only which belong to the States-General. These provinces had the general name of Netherlands, Low Countries, or Pais-Bas, from their situation with respect to Germany. Anciently they formed a part of Gallia Belgica, and afterwards of the German empire and circle of Burgundy, being subject to several petty princes. In the sixteenth century, all the provinces became subject to Charles V. of the house of Austria. Under his son, Philip II. of Spain, the inhabitants, being much oppressed and persecuted, took up arms to assert their liberty, and were supported and assisted in the struggle by the prince of Orange and his brother, and afterwards by queen Elizabeth of England. At length, the territories which are now called the United Provinces, formed themselves into a separate state, by a solemn league and union, and, in 1609, were acknowledged by Spain

Spain to be free and independent. The United Provinces are, properly speaking, eight, viz. Guelderland, Holland, Zealand, Utrecht, Friesland, Overijssel, Groningen, and Zutphen; but as the two latter forming but one sovereignty, they are usually called the seven United Provinces. These provinces, including the Generalité-Lands, are bounded to the north and west by the Northern sea or German ocean; to the east by the duchies of Gelders and Cleve, the bishopric of Munster, the county of Bentheim, and the principality of East Friesland; and to the south by Austrian Flanders and Brabant.

This country abounds with marshes, but they are not without their advantages, as they afford good turf for fuel; and, in some parts of the provinces of Groningen and Overijssel, they are thought to secure a fence to the commonwealth against Germany, that there is a legal prohibition to their being drained or cultivated. This prohibition, however, is not universally regarded. These morasses, together with the low situation of the country, near the sea, occasion a damp air, thick fogs, and frequent rains. Hence arise frequent disorders, particularly the gout, scurvy, rheumatism, and agues. Coughs and rheums are also very common here, and, in the fenny parts near the sea, where the mud, during the ebb, emits putrid effluvia, and wholesome waters are scarce, vomiting is frequently occasioned.

The effects of industry, in this country, is wonderful, in the dykes and dams erected for defending it against the inundation of the sea, and in the ditches, canals, mills, and sluices, for draining the marshes. Though the soil is fruitful, the quantity of grain produced here is not sufficient for home consumption; but the pastures in the marshes are so rich, that the inhabitants are well
sup-

supplied with butter and cheese, and even export large quantities of those articles. How different the appearance of this country from that of Switzerland! Here are no mountains, eminences, plantations, purling streams, or cataracts. The whole face of the country, when viewed from a tower or steeple, has the appearance of a continued marsh or bog, drained at certain distances by innumerable ditches; and many of the canals, which in that country serve as high roads, are, in the summer months, no better than offensive stagnated waters. Here is a good breed of sheep, the wool of which is highly valued; tobacco, madder, fruit, and iron are all produced in this country; but timber, pit-coal, and most of the other necessities and conveniences of life, are imported.

All the provinces either lie upon, or communicate with, the North sea, by means of that called the Zuyder, or South sea; which was formed partly by the Rhine's right branch, then increased by the Vecht, and partly by the sea's breaking in, in the thirteenth century, and overflowing a large tract of ground, contiguous to that which was before laid under water by the Rhine. The rivers are the Rhine, the Maese, the Scheld, and the Vecht.

When you go out of Westphalia, says baron Riefbeck, and enter the territory of Holland, it appears to you as going out of a pig-stye into a fine garden. The country round Nimeguen, especially, is a striking contrast to what you see in Westphalia. Their magnificence, symmetry, and regularity is however tiresome in the end: I cannot stand the tedious uniformity of this country and its inhabitants. All the cities, villages, roads, and canals are so similar, that they appear copies of the self-same individual picture: without business,

ness, no man of taste will stay long in it. *Riesbeck's Tr.* iii. 294.

Calvinism is the established religion: Calvinists only are admitted into any office in the government, the army only accepted; but all religions are tolerated, and have their respective meetings or assemblies for public worship. The papists and Jews are very numerous. There are five universities: those of Utrecht, Leyden, Franeker, Groningen, and Harderwick; but the three last are inconsiderable. The natural language is Low Dutch, which is a corrupted dialect of the German; but English and French, particularly the latter, is spoken by people of rank, as well as by many of an inferior class.

The United Netherlands are composed of seven republics, or sovereign provinces, leagued in a close and distinct alliance. The states of each are the depositaries of the supreme power, which rests, however, in the whole body of their province; and the deputies of provinces compose the States-General. Every town or province may send as many deputies as they please to the assemblies of the provincial states, or states-general; but those of each respective town or province have but one voice, and preside by turns. No resolution taken by the states-general is in force, till confirmed by the several provinces. The legislative power in the towns is vested in the senates, and the executive in the burgomasters, syndics, &c. The states of the provinces are stiled noble and mighty lords; but those of Holland, noble and most mighty lords; and the states-general high and mighty lords, or the lords the states-general of the United Netherlands, or their high mightinesses. Here is also a council of state, consisting of deputies from the several provinces,

vinces, making twelve in the whole; of which Holland sends three, Guelderland, Zealand, and Utrecht two each, and Friesland, Groningen, and Overijssel one each. In this council every deputy presides a week by turns, and the stadtholder has a decisive voice when the votes are equal. The stadtholder is also president of the states in every province, but has no seat in the states-general. One dissenting voice in the provincial state prevents their coming to any resolution.

Every province is a distinct sovereignty, and therefore has the right of coinage; but all the pieces must be of the same intrinsic value. Some of the coin is imaginary, like the pound in England: a deut is equal in value to about half a farthing; a grot Flemish, to two farthings; a stiver to a penny English; a dubbelchin, to two-pence; a schilling is equal to an English sixpence; some others which pass under the same denomination, are worth only five pence half-penny each; a guilder is worth twenty pence; a gold guilder fifty-eight pence; a thaler, or dollar, thirty; a rix thaler, or rix-dollar, fifty; a lowen thaler, or lion-dollar, forty-two; a ducatoon, sixty-three. The value of the gold ducat is about eight shillings and eight-pence; and the ruyder is nearly equal to a guinea. Besides these, there are half-guilder pieces, and half and quarter rix-dollars.

The great trade of these provinces cannot be matter of astonishment, when we consider their situation along the German ocean, the Zuyder-see, the navigable rivers, and multiplicity of canals; their civil and religious freedom, with the numbers, skill, and industry of the inhabitants, their manufactures and fisheries, the great multitude of their merchant ships, the plenty of specie, their

natural parsimony and eagerness for gain, their credit among foreigners, the bank at Amsterdam, and their East-India trade.

The Dutch East-India company first established in 1602, possesses large territories in Asia. This company, however, is subject to the states-general, and all the treaties concluded by it with the Indian princes, must run in their name; and, as a further mark of its subordination, it is obliged, at stated periods, (like the English East-India-company) to solicit the renewal of its privileges. In 1696, in particular, it paid three millions of guilders into the treasury, for having its charter extended to the year 1740. On particular exigencies it has also advanced money to the state, or charged itself with public debts. It has had the monopoly of the fine spices for upwards of one hundred years.

Though the United Provinces yield very few productions, yet almost all the commodities of the globe are found in them in abundance; and nearly on as reasonable terms, as in the countries where they are produced or fabricated. Great quantities of German linen are bleached and whitened by the Dutch. Excellent paper is also made in this country. The timber brought from Norway and the Baltic, is sawed in mills, for the building of ships or houses, and, besides being a very profitable article of export to Spain, Portugal, and other countries, is used by the Dutch, for the construction of large ships for many European nations. Sugar-baking is advantageously carried on here. Great numbers of people are employed, and much wealth acquired, by the herring, cod, and whale fisheries. It is generally supposed, however, that the trade of this country is upon the decline; not so much occasioned by

the reduction of the parsimony and industry of the inhabitants, as by the improvement of manufactures, trade, and navigation, in other countries.

These provinces are perhaps the most populous of any spot of the same extent in the universe. They contain, according to the most accurate accounts, about two millions of inhabitants; exclusive of what is called the lands of the Generalité, or conquered countries. With respect to the character of the Dutch, (a term generally used to express the inhabitants of the United Provinces) Cæsar tells us, in the beginning of his Commentaries, that they were the most valiant of all the Gauls. Many other authors speak of the martial disposition of these people, which was indeed sufficiently manifested in their long and obstinate war with the Spaniards, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Their industry is displayed by their vast traffic.

The inhabitants of this marshy country are strangers to sprightliness and pleasantry, and are not very amorous. The softer passions seem not to be natives of this country; love itself being little better than a mechanical affection, arising from interest, conveniency, or habit. It is sometimes talked of among the young men, but as a thing they have heard of rather than felt. In whatever relates to the management of pecuniary affairs, the Dutch are the most expert of any people. To the knowledge of acquiring wealth, they unite the art of preserving it. For a man to spend less than his income is a general rule, nor can these sagacious people conceive that the common course of expence should equal the revenue; and, when this happens, they think at least they have lived to no purpose. Such a report





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port would bring as much discredit on a man, as extravagance and prodigality would in other countries. Hence, in the midst of a variety of taxes and contributions, such as are experienced in no other country, they flourish and grow rich.

The inhabitants taken in general, (says baron Riefbeck) are only well-dressed beggars: their riches do not belong to them, for they enjoy them not: they are only the guardians of their money. *Riefbeck's Tr.* iii. 295.

From this systematic spirit of regularity and moderation, joined to the most rooted perseverance, they succeeded in the stupendous works of draining their country of those immense deluges of water, which had overflowed so large a part of it during many ages; while, at the same time, they brought under their subjection the rivers and seas that surround them, by dykes of incredible strength and thickness, and made the principal bulwarks, on which they rely for the safety and protection of their territories, against the danger of an enemy. This they have effected by covering their frontiers and cities with innumerable sluices; by means of which, at the shortest notice, the most rapid inundations are let in, and they become in a few hours inaccessible.

Smoking is practised by the old and young of both sexes; and as they are generally plodding upon ways and means of getting money, no people are so unsociable.

An anecdote in Dr. Moore's Travels, applies particularly to this observation. Two English gentlemen being in company with a Dutchman, one of the former, who did not understand the Dutch language, desired the other to inform the Netherlander that he was sorry he could not enjoy the pleasure of his company.. The Dutchman
heard

heard the translation with great composure, and then took his pipe from his mouth, and then made an answer which the interpreter explained: it was to this effect—That we ought to console ourselves for the accident of our not understanding each other; for as we had no connection, or dealings in *trade* together, our conversing could not possibly answer any useful purpose. *Moore's Tr. i. 223.*

The men have no aversion to drinking, which some think essentially necessary in such foggy air. A Dutchman of low rank, when drunk, is guilty of every species of brutality. These Netherlanders have been known to exercise the most dreadful inhumanities for interest, in foreign countries; the cruelties exercised by them at Amboyna sufficiently prove the allegation; but they are, in general, quiet and inoffensive in their own country, which exhibits but few instances of murder, violence, or rapine.

Skaiting in winter, is one of the principal diversions in this country. It is astonishing to see the crowds, in a hard frost, upon the ice, and their great dexterity in that art; both men and women dart along, with inconceivable velocity. The Dutch are remarkable for their cleanliness: nothing can exceed the neatness of their houses, towns, and villages. Many of them have distinguished themselves by their learning, and some even by their wit and ingenuity; witness Erasmus, Grotius, &c.

In time of peace, the number of land-forces, generally amounts to about forty thousand; though they sometimes fall short of that number: twenty-five thousand of them serve in garrisons. They employ many foreigners, especially Swiss and Scots, in their service; and, in time of war,

hire many regiments of the Germans. The stadtholder has the chief command of the army as captain-general, but the executive part, especially in time of war, is committed to the field-marshal-general. The Dutch can fit out a most formidable fleet, having always vast quantities of timber prepared for ship-building, and such numbers of ship-carpenters and mariners. During a peace, however, they seldom have more than thirty in commission, for the protection of their trade in the Mediterranean, to convoy the homeward-bound Indiamen, &c.

The taxes here are so numerous, and severe, more especially in the province of Holland, that it has, with some degree of justice, been remarked, that the only thing which has escaped taxation is the air. The ordinary revenues of the republic are computed at between two and three millions sterling annually. Out of one hundred guilders, the province of Holland contributes fifty-eight, and consequently above one half of the public expences. For the encouragement of trade, the duties on goods and merchandise are extremely low.

In our particular description of the United States, we shall begin with the first in rank, which is,

G U E L D E R L A N D.

THE principal places in the province of Guelderland are,

NIMEGUEN, the first town in rank, the capital of the quarter, and the seat of the diet of the province, pleasantly situated on the south bank of the river Waal, nine miles west of Cleves,
and

and fifty-two south-east of Amsterdam. It is a large, ancient, fortified city. Nimeguen was an imperial city, and had the same privileges allowed it by Frederic II. and Henry VII. which were granted to Aix-la-Chapelle, and other cities of the empire. It is of a semicircular form, built upon five little hills. The houses are neatly built of brick, and covered with slate, and the streets are handsome and spacious. It has five gates towards the land, and as many towards the Waal. On the other side of that river stands a fort, called Knodsenburg, built at first to keep the inhabitants in awe, but it is now their defence, and renders them masters of the passage of the Waal. On the east side of the town stands a large old castle, called the Falkenhof, standing on a steep hill, and commanding both the river and the town. The provincial states, and those of districts, assemble in the stadt-house. This city is famous for the treaty concluded here, in 1678, between the French and the confederates. It carries on a good trade with the duchy of Cleves, and receives great emolument from its much esteemed white beer.

The public school is a noble fabric. Here are also several hospitals. The town-house is a magnificent building, adorned with the statues of several emperors. The seats for the magistrates are beautifully enriched, and over the heads of the burgomasters hangs a naked sword, as an emblem of justice.

ZUTPHEN, a large fortified town on the eastern bank of the river Yffel, forty-five miles east of Utrecht. It has a bridge of boats over the Yffel, which divides the city into the Old and New Town. The whole neighbouring country may be laid under water by means of the Borkel, a river

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a river which here joins the Yffel. The buildings are handsome, and many of the inhabitants are persons of distinguished rank. The principal church is that dedicated to St. Peter and St. Walberg.

The smaller places are Doesburg, Grol, Arnhem, Hardewyk, Bommel, and Lochel.

The most considerable places in the province of HOLLAND are,

DORT, a town on the Maese, nine miles south-east of Rotterdam. It is the capital of the bailliage, and the first in rank among the cities which send deputies to the states of Holland. This bailliage became an island in 1421, when a tempest drove the waters up the Maese and Merwe, with such violence that it overflowed the banks, and swallowed a large tract of land between Dort and Brabant, with seventy villages, and a hundred thousand people. It is rendered so strong by nature that it requires no art. Here is a commodious harbour, and a considerable trade in iron, Rhenish wine, timber, thread, and linen. The counts of Holland were anciently inaugurated, and received homage at this place.

LEYDEN, one of the largest and finest places in the country, situated in a plain surrounded with canals, fine meadows, and pleasant gardens; an arm or small branch of the Rhine running through the city. It is so ancient, that it was famous in the time of Ptolemy, who flourished under Antoninus Pius. It abounds in canals, which divide it into fifty islands. These canals may be passed over by the aid of one hundred and forty-five bridges, most of which are of stone or brick. Along the canals, and in several streets,

rows of lofty trees are planted, which afford pleasant walks to the inhabitants, in a summer evening. The streets are long, broad, and neat; and, in 1732, when the houses were distinctly numbered, there appeared to be ten thousand eight hundred and ninety-one.

Of the Burg, which stands on an eminence, almost in the centre of the town, near the Rhine, and which is supposed to be a Roman work, the walls are still remaining. Within this Burg is a maze, and a deep well without water. Here are some fine churches of Dutch Calvinists, with a French, a Lutheran, an English, and a Mennonite meeting. Mass-houses are pretty numerous, the papists constituting the majority of the inhabitants. The university founded in 1757, by William I. prince of Orange, is the largest and the oldest in all the United Netherlands. It has large privileges, a library well furnished, and particularly rich in manuscripts. Leyden is famous for the long and severe siege it maintained against the Spaniards in 1573.

AMSTERDAM, though not the first in rank among the cities which send deputies to the states of the province, is the most considerable for its extent, and trade, as well as for the share it contributes towards the expences of the state. It obtained its name from the Amstel, on which it is situated, and the dam or dyke built there, to prevent the inundation of the river. The Amstel divides it into two parts, fills its fine canals, and, joining with the Y, passes with it into the Zuydersee. The Y is a gulph of the sea, and almost separates South and North Holland: it forms the harbour of Amsterdam which is built on one side of it, in the form of a crescent. This city

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is about ten miles east of Haerlem, twenty-eight north-east of the Hague, and twenty-nine north-east of Rotterdam. Though this city is not above twelve miles distant from the course of the north sea to the east, yet, in all Holland there is not a single harbour on that coast; the vessels from Amsterdam being obliged to sail round the coast of North-Holland through the Zuyder-see, and to come into the German Ocean, or North Sea, by the island of Texel.

This is a place of no great antiquity: it is not even mentioned in history before 1299, and then only as a small fishing-town. It was first walled in 1482, and has since gradually increased till it has arrived to its present magnitude. The largest and most stately edifice is the Stadhuis, or Guild-hall. It cost the city above a million of guilders: the first stone of it was laid the 28th of October, 1648. It is built upon thirteen thousand six hundred and fifty-nine piles, driven into the ground contiguous to each other. The entrance to this noble structure is by seven small doors: the deficiency of a large door, suitable to the building, being a part of the plan of the architect; the seven doors, in number and uniformity, representing the Seven Provinces. The inside is beautifully ornamented with marble, jasper, sculpture and painting. In some of its vaults, or cellars, are kept the treasures of the celebrated bank of Amsterdam; in others, criminals under sentence of death are confined; others are appropriated to the use of officers of various classes. In the upper part is an arsenal, or rather a collection of old fashioned armour and weapons. The tower commands a prospect of the city and its environs, as far as the Zuyder-see. The Lombard is a corporation, empowered by authority to lend money upon pledges at a moderate interest. The

bank here was founded in 1609. The whole city is answerable for the money deposited in it; and the treasure is secured under four different locks, the keys of which are kept by four of the principal magistrates, one of whom is always the president-burgomaster for the time being.

The exchange is another ornament of Amsterdam. The admiralty-house, has nothing very remarkable. The arsenal, and magazine for military stores, is a fine modern building. Near it is the dock, about five hundred feet in length, with houses for the use of the superior officers: it is richly furnished with every thing requisite for the building of ships. The East-India house is a long irregular structure. There are, in several parts of the city, public weighing-houses, with proper officers, that buyers may not be imposed on.

The harbour, which is one of the largest and safest in Europe, has at the entrance of it, a bar of mud, and sand, called the Pampus. It might have been easily removed, but the inhabitants wisely determined to let it remain; for, as the large vessels cannot come into the harbour of Amsterdam, without being unloaded, or lifted up and carried over that bar by means of boats, which they call camels, it is absolutely a security for the town, no enemy's fleet being able to approach it. This bar also affords a livelihood to a vast number of people, who are continually employed in loading or unloading the vessels. The sluices are works of prodigious expence and art.

The public houses of correction are worth a travellers notice—such as the Rasp-house, where rogues are imprisoned, and kept at hard-labour, especially rasping or sawing Brazil wood, for three, four, seven, or ten years, or for life, according to the nature of their offences. Incorrigible offenders are put into a dungeon, where

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the water comes in, and are obliged to labour continually at the pump, to avoid being drowned. In the Spin-houses, prostitutes and other women of ill-fame, are kept in the same manner to spinning, &c. Here are eleven churches of Dutch Calvinists, with two of French, two of English, one of Arminians, two of Lutherans, and two of Mennonites. The papists have a great number of places of worship. The synagogue of the Portuguese Jews is a large stately building, of a quadrangular form; the other Jews have their distinct synagogues. The number of hospitals and poor houses in this city is very considerable, their incomes large, and the conveniences and cleanliness of them highly worthy of admiration. In the painted windows of what is called the New Church, is represented the liberality of this city, to the emperor Maximilian, in presenting him with a large sum of money when his necessities required it; and his generosity in bestowing an imperial crown for the crest to the arms of the town. In the same church may be seen the sumptuous monument of admiral de Ruyter, who was killed at Messina; and an organ, supported by rich marble pillars, of curious workmanship, famous for a great number of pipes, and for its melodious imitation of human voices.

The number of inhabitants in Amsterdam is supposed to exceed two hundred thousand. The ground being marshy, the buildings are obliged to be founded on oaken piles, whence Erasmus facetiously observed, that, in his country, vast multitudes of the people lived on the tops of trees. The great number of canals with which the town is intersected, though they add to its beauty and cleanliness, and are commodious for its trade, yet, in hot, calm weather, they emit
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foetid effluvias; which would be still more offensive were not the water kept in continual motion, by the working of a horse-mill, and two large water mills.

This city has a very large share of the commerce carried on in the four quarters of the globe. The industry of the inhabitants of Amsterdam is astonishing; all are employed, except those who want hands, or strength to exercise them.

ROTTERDAM, a town situated at the conflux of the Maese and Rotter, from the latter of which, and *dam*, signifying dyke, its name is compounded. It is principally situated along the north bank of the Maese, thirteen miles south-east of the Hague, and twenty-eight south-west of Amsterdam. This beautiful place is of a triangular form, and has lately been so much enlarged, that, next to Amsterdam and Leyden, it is the largest city in Holland. Its streets are spacious, ornamented with lofty trees and noble canals; by the last of which, ships of the greatest burthen sail into the heart of the city, and lade and unlade at the merchants' doors. The trade here is very great. Over the Maese, which is here a mile and a half in breadth, a bridge is erected, on which is placed a brass statue of Erasmus.

The Haaring-Vliet is the finest street in Rotterdam, most of the houses in it being built of hewn-stone. The Boom-quay lies delightfully along the Maese, extending from the New to the Old Head, or Point, the two places where the water of the river enters the city, and fills the canals, rising and falling twice a day with the tide. One side is adorned with a magnificent row of trees and houses or rather palaces, extending above half a mile; on the other we behold the
5 river,

river, where ships are continually sailing up and down, and where many lie at anchor. This delightful quay, being broad and clean, answers the purpose of a mall, and is much resorted to by people of distinction. Here are several fine buildings: the bank, the East and West-India houses, the arsenal, and the Delftgate, are noble structures. Near the great church stands the little obscure house where Erasmus was born, which is signified by his structure. A Latin inscription appears over the door, informing the traveller that "Erasmus, who adorned the world with arts and sciences, religion and virtue, was born in this house."

THE HAGUE sends no deputies to the states, though it is one of the most considerable towns in Holland, finely situated, and extremely beautiful. It is eight miles south of Leyden, twenty-eight south-west of Amsterdam, and thirteen north-west of Rotterdam. It stands on a dry soil, a little more elevated than the rest of the country, in consequence of which the inhabitants breathe a purer air than those who are situated in other parts of the province. This town has been little mentioned till about 1252, when William II. count of Holland, and king of the Romans, removed his court hither from Gravesande, a village twelve miles distant. From that time it has ever been the seat of government; and since the commencement of the republic in 1579, it may be said to have been the capital of the Seven United Provinces; though it is called only a village, for it is not walled, nor does it send deputies to the states. With regard to extent, opulence, and number of inhabitants, it may, however, be ranked among the best cities in Europe, of the second class. It is about six miles in circumference,

cumference, contains upwards of six thousand houses, and not less than fifty thousand inhabitants. It is surrounded by a canal, over which there are several handsome draw-bridges; but these bridges are never drawn up, therefore persons may enter the Hague at all hours. This canal is bordered, on one side, and, in some places, on both, by a row of tall shady trees. Many of the streets and public places are so exceedingly spacious and airy, and so much embellished with trees and water, that any one may imagine himself in a village, enjoying the pleasures of solitude, in the midst of a magnificent city.

The palace, or court, called Het Binnen-hof, which was built in 1250, by William II. count of Holland, and king of the Romans, stands almost in the centre of the Hague. There are three entrances into it, over the same number of draw-bridges, which might be drawn up in case of necessity. The buildings are old, irregular, and not very magnificent.

De Plaats is an open and airy place, nearly in the form of a triangle: it is handsomely adorned with houses, but has no trees. Criminals of rank, are executed here, on a scaffold erected for that purpose: their heads are struck off with a sword at one blow. The Vyverberg is an eminence formed into several fine shady walks, with the Vyver, a large basin of water, at the bottom. The Vourhoot is the most celebrated part of the Hague, consisting of the mall, and three ways for coaches on each side, planted with trees.

Among other agreeable objects in the environs of the Hague, may be mentioned the village of Scheveling, and the sand hills along the North-sea; the village of Voorburg, and the charming seats and gardens round it. Two miles from the Hague is a village, named Ryswick, to
which

which there is a beautiful walk, well-paved and adorned with lofty rows of trees, having delightful meadows on each side. Through this road foreign ambassadors make their public entry into the Hague. Near Ryswick stands the noble palace of the same name, belonging to the prince of Orange, famous for the treaty of peace concluded there in 1697.

The other most considerable places in the province of Holland are Harlem, Delft, Gauda, Gorkum, Briel, Helvoetsluys, &c.

The principal places in NORTH-HOLLAND, are Alkmaar, Hoorn, Edam, Monnikendam, Medenblick, &c.

The most considerable place in the province of ZEALAND, is MIDDLEBURG, or, as the Dutch spell it, MIDDELBURG, the capital, a large well fortified city. It is the seat of the admiralty college, the chamber of accounts, and the mint. It is fortified with a wall, strengthened with thirteen bastions, and ships of four hundred tons can come up to it by a broad deep canal, a mile and a half in length. It is a populous, flourishing, and opulent city. It is adorned with several noble squares, and stately public buildings. The island in which this city stands, though not the largest, is the most fruitful and populous of all the Zealand islands. Middleburg is about forty-two miles south-west of Rotterdam, and thirty-four north-east of Ostend.

VLISSINGEN, or FLUSHING, a fortified town on the same island, at the mouth of the Hondt, or Westerscheld, about five miles south-west of Middleburg. It has greater conveniences for navigation and trade, than any other in the Netherlands. To the right of the new haven, leading

to the provincial bason, is a large dock; and to the west of that lies the entrance into the old harbour which is divided into two departments, and serves for merchant ships. It defends not only the passage into the Westerscheld, but also to the isles of Zealand, and even into Flanders by sea. This was one of the first cities that declared for the confederates, after they had seized the Briel. Though the town is not so large, nor so handsome as Middleburg, it has several fine structures, particularly the town-house, which is a very magnificent and regular pile, after the model of that of Antwerp. The prince of Orange, as marquis of Flushing, is first nobleman of the province. The famous admiral de Ruyter, who rose from a common seaman and pilot to be admiral of the United Provinces, was born here in 1607.

Among the principal places, Veer also deserves to be noticed. The islands of Zealand are South-Beeveland, North-Beeveland, Schowen, Duiveland, Tholen, and St. Philip's island.

Baron Riesbeck informs us, that the sea is a very formidable enemy to the islands which constitute the province of Zealand. The inhabitants have attempted to secure themselves by very expensive dykes: these dykes consist of large trees, which are joined together with large needles to prevent the *kakerlak*. The sea is perpetually undermining them, and washing the earth away from them by degrees; in many places they are already quite naked. This compels the inhabitants to build other walls behind their dams; which, expecting the same fate, must in time leave the whole to the mercy of their enemy. *Riesbeck's Tr.* iii. 300.

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The ISLAND of DUIVELAND contains no towns, though it has several villages; but these are not of sufficient consequence to merit a description.

The principal places in the province of UTRECHT, or, as the Dutch spell it, UITRECHT, anciently called *Antonia*, whence, as well as from the Roman coin and other monuments of antiquity found about it, it is supposed to have been a Roman colony. This city which is the capital of the province and the seat of its states, lies on the channel of the Old Rhine, nineteen miles south of Amsterdam, and twenty-five north-east of Rotterdam. It is a large, handsome, populous city, and the capital of the province. Before the reformation, here were several rich monasteries, and other religious houses. The churches are magnificent, especially that of St. Martin, formerly the cathedral, where Charles V. in 1536, held a solemn meeting of the knights of the Golden Fleece.

The streams run through several of the streets, and contribute much to the beauty of the town; the suburbs are large and convenient, and have also canals running through them. The names of the two principal streams in the city, are the Vaert, and the New Graft. The buildings on each side of the latter are very splendid. The only defence of the city is a wall on the Old Canal. Here is a handsome town-house, a commandery of the Teutonic order, and a celebrated university founded in 1636, since which it has greatly flourished. The mall, without the town, is decorated with five rows of lofty limes on each side, and is very pleasant; the physic-garden, belonging to the university, is extremely curious. This city is famous for the birth of pope Adrian VI.

Here in 1579, the memorable union was formed between the Seven Provinces; and, in 1713, the celebrated peace was concluded between Great-Britain, Portugal, Prussia, Savoy, and the United Provinces, on the one part, and France on the other; and, in 1714, between Spain and the Dutch.

The small towns, not particularly entitled to notice are Amersfort, Rhenen, Wyk, Montfort, Amerongen, Leerfum, and Zeyft.

The most considerable places in the province of FRIESLAND, are Leuwarden, Bosward, Franeker, Sneek, Harlingens, and Dokkum.

The principal places in the province of OVERYSSEL, are Deventer, Kampen, and Zwol.

The most considerable places in the province of GRONINGEN are, Groningen, and Dam.

The county of DRENTHE contains the towns of Assen, Koevorden, and Meppel.

THE GENERALITE' LANDS.

THE Generalité Lands, are those parts of the divided Netherlands which the Seven United Provinces have jointly subdued, and which have been solemnly ceded to them by treaties and conventions. This appellation was bestowed on these countries, on account of their belonging to the United Provinces in general. These territories retain all the privileges which they enjoyed when they fell under the dominion of the republic. The hereditary stadtholder of the United Provinces is governor-general of all these countries.

tries. Here are also some governors of fortresses ; but the power of these is limited to the soldiery. The high tribunals for the administration of justice in the Generalité Lands, sit at the Hague, Middleburg, and Venlo. Calvinism is the established religion here, as well as in the provinces ; but all sects are tolerated. The Roman Catholics, who are very numerous, are not, however, allowed public processions, or other open solemnities.

These lands consist of a part of the duchies of Brabant and Limburg, of the Upper quarter of Guelderland, and of Flanders. The principal places belonging to the STATES, in the duchy of BRABANT, are, Bois-le-Duc, Breda, Bergen-op-Zoom, and Maestricht.

In that part of the DUCHY of LYMBURG belonging to the STATES, the only places deserving notice are Valkenburg, and Dalem, two small towns.

In that part of the UPPER QUARTER of GUELDERLAND, belonging to the states, the only places worth mentioning are Venlo, a town of considerable strength, seated on the Maese ; Montfoort, a small town ; and Stevens-Waerd, a fort on an island in the Maese.

In that part of FLANDERS which belongs to the STATES, the principal places are Sluys, a pretty large town ; Huft, a strong well-built town ; Ysendyk, Axel, Sas Van Ghent, and Philippine, four small fortified towns ; and two or three other inconsiderable places.

T H E

AUSTRIAN NETHERLANDS.

THESE Netherlands consist of the greatest part of the duchies of Brabant, Limburg, and Luxembourg, with a part of that of Gueldres, and of the counties of Flanders, Henegau, and Namur. Formerly the Netherlands made a part of the circle of Burgundy, the whole of which once belonged to the house of Austria; and, on the death of the emperor Charles V. devolved to the Burgundian Spanish line of that house. The whole, however, was afterwards lost, except the countries above mentioned; which, on the death of Charles II. king of Spain, fell to the German line of the Austrian family. These Austrian Netherlands are still considered as a circle of the empire, of which the archducal house, as sovereign of the whole, is sole director and summoning prince. This circle contributes its proportion to the imposts of the empire, and sends an envoy to its diet, but is not subject to its judicatories. It is wholly Roman catholic, and under a governor-general, appointed by the court of Vienna.

BRA.

B R A B A N T.

THIS territory is bounded to the north and east by that part of Brabant which belongs to the United Provinces, to the west by Flanders, and south by Henegau and Namur. The air of this country is good, and its soil very fertile, producing great quantities of flax; except in some of the northern parts, where it is sandy and sterile. The river Demer waters a part of the country, receiving into it the lesser streams of Ghete, Dyle, Senne, and Nethe; after which it takes the name of Rupel, and loses itself in the Scheld, which, to the west, borders on Brabant. Two fine canals also contribute their aid to enrich this country; one of which joins the Senne and the Rupel, and cost eight hundred thousand florins: the other runs from Louvain to the Rupel.

Austrian Brabant contains nineteen walled towns, and a considerable number of boroughs and villages. The states of the province, who meet four times a year at Brussels, consist of the clergy, nobility, and representatives of the chief towns. The Roman Catholic is the only religion of this country, and the number and opulence of the ecclesiastics is very considerable. In 1559, an archbishopric was erected at Mechlin by pope Paul IV. and the suffragans to that see are the prelates of Antwerp, Ghent, Bois-le-Duc, Bruges, Ypres, and Ruremonde. The archbishopric contains fourteen collegiate churches, and two hundred and three cloisters. This, with several other countries, came to the house of Austria by the marriage of Maria, daughter of Charles the Bold, duke of Burgundy, with Maximilian, archduke of Austria.

These

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These Netherlanders have, not long since, lately risen in rebellion against the house of Austria: the late emperor Joseph, rigorously endeavoured to dragoon them into allegiance, but without much success: the late emperor, Leopold II. could not complete this business in his very short reign, nor is it yet absolutely settled. This country seems to be the theatre of the war between the emperor and France.

The principal manufactures, both of this and the other provinces of the Netherlands, consist of lace, cambrics, lawns, and tapestry, with which they carry on a very advantageous traffic. The inhabitants of the Austrian and Dutch Netherlands very much resemble the Germans and Dutch, both in their manners and person: the French Flemings also endeavour to imitate that nation. The Walloon language, which is generally spoken here, and in the other provinces, by the common people, is a dialect of the German, with a mixture of French and Spanish; but the French language is spoken by the superior class of people all over the Netherlands, and even by many of the common sort, especially in French Flanders: those on the frontiers of Holland speak Dutch.

AUSTRIAN BRABANT is divided into quarters or districts; in that of Louvain the most considerable place is,

LOUVAIN, a large city on the Dyle, thirteen miles east of Brussels, and twenty-six north of Namur. It claims the title of the capital of Brabant, which Brussels now enjoys, being the seat of the governor-general, and of all the courts of justice. Louvain is very ancient, having had its rise from a castle, built by the emperor Arnulphus, to secure the country against the inroads of the

the Normans; whence it is still called the castle of Cæsar. The castle was afterwards long the residence of the dukes of Brabant: the emperor Charles V. and his sisters were educated in it. The churches and cloisters are very numerous and beautiful, both within and without the town, which is very large, but not populous; containing many meadows, vineyards, gardens, and orchards, within its walls. It seems indeed to have been the taste of the ancient sovereigns of these countries, to inclose within their cities almost ground enough to support the citizens.

Louvain is seated in a very fertile soil, and in so pleasant and serene an air, that wine is made both within and without the walls. It was formerly the richest city in the country, and carried on a very extensive trade.

The less noted towns in this district are Tienen, Ramilies, Gemblours, Landen, Diest, Leeuwe, Sichen, and Arschot.

In the **QUARTER**, or **TERRITORY** of **BRUSSELS**, the principal place is

BRUSSELS, the capital of Brabant, and of all the Netherlands, though only the second in rank. It is situated on the little river Senne, which passes through it, twenty-five miles south of Antwerp, thirteen west of Louvain, twenty-eight east of Oudenarde, and twenty-seven south-east of Ghent. Being seated on the brow of a hill, no city in Europe makes a finer appearance at a distance, except Naples and Genoa: and, like them, it falls short of expectation when it is entered, being all up and down hill. Brussels is about seven miles in circumference, and therefore too large to hold out a long siege: it has seven gates, with large suburbs, and is encompassed with a double brick

wall and ditches. It is the seat of the chancery and feudal court of Brabant, as well as of the state-council, the privy-council, the finance and war-council, the rent-chamber, &c.

It is very populous and well built, and has seven squares, all very fine, particularly the great square, or market-place.

Brussels, says baron Riesbeck, is one of the most beautiful and most brilliant cities in Europe. I have not seen any where, a finer place than the large market-place of this city; and the houses in it are built in a style, and with a degree of magnificence that you hardly see any where out of Italy. You meet here with excellent company, who are not difficult of access to a stranger. *Riesbeck's Tr.* iii. 318.

Of public buildings, the palaces and courts of the several princes, counts, and other persons of distinction, together with the churches and cloisters, some are noble, and others magnificent. The town-house, which composes one quarter of the great square, is a noble pile of building, in which are the apartments where the states of Brabant meet, finely adorned with tapestry in gilt frames, and original paintings.

The imperial palace stands on the top of the hill, with a large square before it, encircled with pillars of brass; on which are the statues of several emperors and dukes of Brabant, in brass, gilt, as large as life. Behind the palace you descend by a pair of hanging-stairs into a paterre, adorned with water-spouts and ever-greens; behind which is a park well stocked with deer, and regularly planted with trees. Here is a surprising echo, which makes twelve distinct reverberations. All the palaces contain collections of original paintings, by the most eminent masters, both Italian and Flemish.

Here

Here is a public office for lending money on pledges, at a moderate interest. It is called the Mount of Piety, and was established by the archduke Albert, and Isabella his wife, in 1617. Private passages are contrived for going in and out, without being seen. This plan has been found so beneficial, that the inhabitants in all the great cities in the Netherlands, have erected such Mounts of Piety. This city is remarkable for seven parish churches, seven patrician families, out of which the magistracy is elected, seven large squares, seven midwives, licensed and sworn by the senate, and seven gates, each leading to different places of exercise and recreation.

Brussels is said to have entertained, at one time, seven crowned heads, besides the dukes of Savoy and Lorrain, with nine thousand horse belonging to their retinue.

This quarter also contains Nivelles, and the small towns of Vilverden, Senefse, and Arquennes.

In the COUNTY and QUARTER of ANTWERP, the principal place is

ANTWERP, situated in a low marshy spot on the Scheld, which is here twenty feet deep, and rises twenty more at high water. It is twenty-five miles north of Brussels, twenty-seven north-east of Ghent, and fifteen north-west of Mechlin. It gives name to the territory in which it stands, which is properly named the marquisate of Antwerp, though it is also called the margravate or marquisate of the Holy Roman empire. It is the third city in rank in Brabant, and is large and well built. It is almost circular, environed with a fine wall, planted with rows of trees on each side, with walks between them, broad enough to admit of two coaches a-breast, from whence there is a

most delightful prospect. Most of the houses are of free-stone, and have an air of antiquity, being high, with courts before, and gardens behind.

It has a commodious harbour, into which the largest ships may run from the sea, and come to the keys, as in the Thames at London; but, when the United Provinces formed themselves into a free-state, after having shaken off the yoke of Spain, they got the entire command of the navigation of the Scheld, which ruined the trade of Antwerp, and transferred it to Amsterdam.

The situation of Antwerp, says baron Riefbeck, would have been much more advantageous for the advancement of trade; but the Dutch have locked up the mouth of the Scheld. Their forts not only govern the river, as they should do, according to treaty, but they have literally stopped up the mouth of it. Sunken ships, filled with stones, immense dykes of stone, palisadoes, and other things of the kind, barely leave room enough for small boats to go by. Twenty millions of guilders would not be enough, in twenty years, to remove the impediments which the Dutch have laid in the way of the trade of Antwerp. *Riefbeck's Tr.* iii. 315.

In the latter part of the fifteenth century, this was one of the most celebrated trading towns in Europe, and towards the middle of the sixteenth, the number of its inhabitants was estimated at two hundred thousand; but from the Dutch having monopolized its trade, together with an insurrection in 1659, which obliged many of the inhabitants to quit the town, with on infectious distemper which carried off great numbers in 1678; it is now but thinly inhabited.

This, says Mrs Piozzi, is now a heavy-looking town—so melancholy! the Scheld shut up; the grass

grass growing in the streets! those streets so empty of inhabitants! and it was so famous once! *Piozzi's Tr. i. 380.*

At the head of the Mere is a fine crucifix of brass, thirty-three feet high, in a pedestal of marble, which was erected in 1633. The cathedral, dedicated to Our Lady, the stadthouse, and the exchange, are magnificent structures: the latter is the first building of that kind in Europe, those of London and Amsterdam being models of it. This building has four spacious gates, which are always open; and the walks on each side are supported by forty-three pillars of blue marble, all engraved, but not two of them alike. Antwerp is the see of a bishop, who, as abbot of St. Bernard, is the second prelate in Brabant.

The cathedral, already mentioned, is a most noble pile, with one of the finest steeples in the world. The emperor Charles V. when he made his entry into Antwerp, said it ought to be put into a case, and shewed only once a year as a rarity.

With regard to the fortifications of the city, besides being surrounded with a wall, it is defended by a very strong, large, regular citadel, in the form of a pentagon, erected by the duke of Alva, in 1658, which commands the town and the neighbouring country.

The smaller places are Turnhout, Lier, Herentals, and Nazaret.

THE LORDSHIP OF MECHLIN.

THIS province does not exceed eight miles in length, and five in breadth; and, exclusive of the capital, contains only nine villages. Though it has been one of the seventeen provinces, it is now

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now reckoned a part of Brabant, in the centre of which it lies, but has peculiar arms and privileges. It contains no place of note except

MECHLIN, a considerable city on the little river Demer, fifteen miles south of Antwerp, twelve north of Brussels, and thirteen north-west of Louvain. It is the see of an archbishop, erected in 1559, by pope Paul IV. The cathedral is a large magnificent structure, with a very high tower. St. Rombant, who was an Irishman, and bishop of Dublin, is patron of this city. He is said to have been murdered here in 755, on his return from Rome, by two assassins, in hopes of finding a considerable sum of money about him. His reliques are kept in a silver shrine, which is reckoned one of the richest in the whole country.

THE AUSTRIAN PART OF THE DUCHY OF LIMBURG.

THE duchy of Limburg is surrounded by the bishopric of Liege, and the duchies of Juliers and Luxemburg. That part of it which belongs to the states-general, is now called the county on the other side of the Maese. Anciently it had counts and dukes of its own, but afterwards it came to the dukes of Brabant; from whom, with the other provinces of the Netherlands, it devolved first to the dukes of Burgundy, and then to the house of Austria. This country is very populous, has a good soil, and is well watered, producing wheat, fruits, and pasture. It also abounds in cattle, and has mines of iron, lead, and calamy. The principal place in this territory is Limburg.

THE

THE AUSTRIAN PART OF THE DUCHY OF LUXEMBURG.

THE duchy of Luxemburg is bounded to the north by the bishopric of Liege, and the duchies of Limburg and Juliers; to the east by the electorate of Treves; to the west by Champagne; and to the south by the duchy of Lorrain. It is about eighty miles in length, and upwards of seventy in breadth. The air is mild and temperate; and the plains, in the east part, are fruitful in corn; but, towards the west, the country is mountainous and woody; but it produces rye and pulse, with some wine, and abounds in iron mines, and quarries of stone. It formerly had counts and dukes of its own, several of whom were advanced to the dignity of emperors and kings. In 1444, Elizabeth, princess of this country, ceded all her right to it to Philip the Good, duke of Burgundy, for sixteen thousand florins, and an annual pension of eight thousand; afterwards it came to the house of Austria, like the other provinces of the Netherlands. By the peace of the Pyrenees, in 1659, France obtained a part of it. A governor is appointed over the Austrian part of it; and at Luxemburg is a provincial council, established in 1553, by the emperor Charles V. with a judicatory of nobles. It lies in the centre of the ancient forest of Ardenne, and the following are the principal places it contains:

LUXEMBURG, the capital, seated near the Elz, which here receives the little river Petreuse, fifty-two miles north of Limburg. It is one of the strongest fortifications in the Netherlands, and is divided into the upper and lower town: the for-

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former resembles a heptagon, and lies partly in a plain, and partly on a rock; the latter is seated amidst deep vallies. This, like many other Roman catholic cities, swarms with monks and nuns, who possess great revenues, bestowed on them in the dark ages, by their deluded superstitious votaries: the Benedictine abbey of Munster, in particular, is very opulent, possessing a seignior, which contains eight manors, or districts.

The other places entitled to notice are, Arlun, Bastogne, Marche, Chiny, Virton, Biedburg, Epternach, Grave-Macheren, Dickrich, Durbicy, and La Roche.

THE MARQUISATE OF LE PONT D'OYE.

THE principal places in this marquisate are Rochefort, Vianden, St. Vit, and St. Hubert.

THE AUSTRIAN PART OF THE DUCHY OF GELDERS.

AS the principal part of this duchy belongs to the United Provinces, we refer the reader to that head for a description of it. The most considerable places in the duchy, which belong to the house of Austria, are Roermond, Geldre, and Kessel.

THE AUSTRIAN PART OF THE COUNTY OF FLANDERS.

THIS county is bounded to the north-west by the Northern sea; to the east by Brabant and the Hennegau; to the south-west by Artois; and to the

the south by Hennegau and Artois. Its greatest length is about seventy-five miles, and its greatest breadth fifty-five. The air in the neighbourhood of the sea, is thick and moist, occasioned by the canals and ponds of standing waters, as well as by the north winds, which frequently blow here; but it is purer and finer in proportion to its distance from the sea. The winters are often long and severe, and the summers frequently wet, though sometimes very sultry. The soil in general is fertile, and, in some parts, to a remarkable degree. Flax is the riches of the country. Its pastures are in many parts extremely fine: here the breeding of cattle is an important article. The breed of horses and sheep is also very considerable.

The country is so extremely populous, and the towns so numerous, that the Spaniards, who came here with Philip II. supposed Flanders to be one continued city. The principal rivers are the Scheld, the Lys, the Dender, and the Scarpe. Here are also several canals, of which that between Bruges and Ghent is the principal. In the Austrian and French parts of this province, the only religion professed or tolerated, is the Roman catholic.

In the **AUSTRIAN PART** of the province, the most considerable place is

GHENT, the capital of Flanders, and one of the largest cities in Europe, being seven miles in circumference within the walls, though very little more than half that space is built upon. It is thirty miles north of Tournay, twenty-eight north-west of Brussels, twenty-six south-west of Antwerp, and thirty-three east of Ostend. This place, on account of the many streams which unite near it, boasts

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boasts of a very advantageous situation, as well with respect to its trade as its strength; for the Scheld not only receives the Lys in this city, but from hence to Damme, runs the Lieve, which is properly a canal, and receives several rivulets; not to mention the canal from this town to Bruges, with other canals and rivers.

This city is well fortified both by art and nature, having a strong castle, walls, and ditches, and can, by shutting up the sluices, lay the country a mile round under water. It was formerly so populous and powerful, that the inhabitants maintained vigorous wars against their neighbours, and even against their own princes, to whom they have rendered themselves formidable. Here are a great number of monasteries, churches, hospitals, and market-places. Of the last, that called the Friday's-market is the largest, and is adorned with a statue of Charles V. in his imperial robes.

LOUDENARDE, or AUDENARDE, a small town, not only surrounded by the Scheld, but that river also passes through it. It is celebrated for its beautiful tapestries: but what will render it for ever famous, is the great victory obtained here by the duke of Marlborough and prince Eugene, over the French, commanded by the dukes of Burgundy and Vendome, on the 11th of June, 1708. In this battle king George I. of Great-Britain, distinguished himself.

BRUGES, a city twenty-four miles north-west of Ghent, eleven east of Ostend, and forty-six west of Antwerp. A chapel, which anciently stood here near a bridge, in Flemish *brugge*, gave occasion to the building of the city, and its name. Here are several fine canals for the conveniency of trade. By one of them a passenger may go

to Ostend, Newport, Furnes, and Dunkirk, in a summer's day; and vessels of four hundred tons can come upon it the bason of Bruges. Another leads to Ghent, another to Damme, and a third to Sluys. The water of these canals is without the least motion, and therefore is not drank, or used for culinary purposes: for such uses water is conveyed to them by pipes from the Lys and Scheld, for which every house pays a certain rate.

This city was in so flourishing a state about two hundred years ago, that merchants from all parts of the world resorted hither, and the several nations had their distinct houses, magnificently built, with warehouses for the articles of their commerce: here are still shewn seventeen palaces, which were formerly the residences of the consuls of different nations: but, though this city has been long on the decline, there are still many opulent merchants in it, who meet every day at noon in the great market-place. It is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Mechlin. The cathedral here is a very ancient building, erected in 865. Fine woollen, and cotton stuffs, silks, lace, tapestry, and linen, are made in this city. Many of the streets and squares are very fine; of the latter, the Friday's market-place, and the Burg, are the most remarkable.

OSTEND, one of the cities comprehended within the liberty of Bruges, eleven miles west of that city, and twenty-one north-east of Dunkirk. It is well fortified, and seated in a marshy ground, among canals, into some of which the largest ships may enter with the tide. The town is surrounded with forts, and the harbour is such that it cannot possibly be blocked up. Ships of great burden may pass from hence to Bruges. The emperor of Germany has no other port in Flanders

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than this and Newport, and this is the most considerable.

This city held out against the Spaniards, from July 5, 1601, to September 22, 1604. They are said to have lost eighty thousand men before it; and the number of those who were killed or died in the city, was supposed to be fifty-thousand: not that so many men were in the place at one time, but a continual supply was furnished by England and Holland.

Since Ostend has been made a free-port, says baron Riesbeck, the trade of it has very much increased; it is, however, much to be feared, that it will relapse into its former insignificancy. All the English, who are here, cry out on the dangerous entrance into the haven, by stormy north, north-west, and westerly winds, the narrow bason, and the want of many other conveniences. *Riesbeck's Tr.* iii. 315.

Here are several convents, with an hospital, founded by the citizens; and the order of St. John has a commandery in this place. The emperor Charles VI. erected an East India company here; but the maritime powers, after many negotiations, got it abolished, in 1781. The fresh waters which is used at Ostend is brought in boats from Bruges. During hostilities between France and England, in which the emperor has no concern, the inhabitants of this place acquire great wealth; its situation occasioning it to be much resorted to by Britons, when there ceases to be a communication between the ports of Calais and Dover.

NEWPORT, or NIEUPORT, a strong sea-port town on the little river Iperee, about nine miles south-west of Ostend, fourteen north-east of Dunkirk, and thirty-eight west of Ghent. It has a good tide harbour, with a collegiate church, and
five

five cloisters. Its strength consists principally in its sluices, by which all the country round can be immediately laid under water.

This territory also contains the smaller towns of Oudenarde, Oud, Alost, Coutray, Dendermonde, Ypres, Warneton, Geertsberghe, Ninove, Ronse, Bornheim, Dixmuyde, Cnocke, and Furnes.

THE AUSTRIAN PART OF THE COUNTY OF HAINAULT.

THIS county which is about forty-eight miles in length, and forty-five in breadth, terminates to the north on Flanders; to the east on the duchy of Brabant, the county of Namur, and the bishopric of Liege; to the west on Artois and Flanders; and to the south on Champagne and Picardy. The air is pleasant and temperate, and the soil fruitful. It is well watered by the Scheld, the Selle, the Dender, and several lakes; and breeds great numbers of black cattle and sheep; the wool of the latter being remarkably fine.

In that part of Hainault still possessed by the house of Austria, the principal place is

MONS, the capital, twenty-seven miles south of Brussels, and thirty-three west of Namur. It is a large, populous, well fortified city, standing on an eminence near the Little Trouille. The buildings are beautiful, the streets broad, and the market-place spacious. The public edifices are very magnificent.

MALPLAQUET, a village about eight miles south of Mons. The French under the marshals Villars and Bouffleurs, were defeated here by the duke of Marlborough, in 1709.

HALLE,

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HALLE, a small town, pleasantly situated on the Senne, seven miles south-east of Brussels. It is well fortified and garrisoned for the security of Brussels.

FONTENOY, a village on the Scheld, where in 1745, the French, under marshal Saxe, paid dear for a victory.

The places of less note are Soignies, Roeux, Ath, Leuse, Chievres, Leszines, Enchine, Braine le Compte, Binche, Ligne, Braine le Chateau, and Steenkirke.

THE COUNTY OF NAMUR.

THIS territory is almost surrounded by the bishopric of Liege, and the duchy of Brabant. It is about thirty miles in length, and twenty in breadth. It is plentifully stored with commodities of all kinds; the hills are clothed with woods of wild-fowl and venison, and the vallies are fruitful in corn and pastures. It is well watered by the Maese, the Sambre, and the Mebaine. It formerly had counts of its own; but, in 1742, it was sold to Philip the good, duke of Burgundy. A small part of this county was ceded to the French, by the treaty of Nimeguen. The only considerable place in this territory is,

NAMUR, situated at the conflux of the rivers Maese and Sambre, thirty-three miles south-east of Brussels, and twenty-six south of Louvain. It is said to be the strongest town in Europe, being surrounded with twelve forts besides a strong castle. In 1692, this town was taken by the French, in the presence of Lewis XIV; but, in 1695, it was taken from them by William III. king of Great-Britain,

Britain, and the elector of Bavaria. In 1701, it was seized by the French; in 1704, bombarded by the confederates; in 1712, ceded to the elector of Bavaria; and, in 1715, given up to the States General as a barrier town. In 1746, the French again made themselves masters of it, and did not quit it till 1749. Namur is the see of a bishop, suffragan to the archbishop of Mechlin, and its cathedral is dedicated to St. Aubein. Here are also two collegiate churches, and four parish churches. Besides the magistracy of the town, and the provincial council, here is a tribunal called the sovereign bailliage.

The inferior places in this district are, Charleroi, a small strong town on the Sambre; Walcourt, also a small town; and Bovines, an ancient little town, not far from the Maese.

THE END.

